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AN ENERGETIC APPROACH TO HOMOGENIZATION  
PROBLEMS WITH RAPIDLY OSCILLATING  
POTENTIALS

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Hedy Attouch<sup>†</sup>

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ABSTRACT

*It is shown*  
~~We show~~ that many, a priori distinct, problems of homogenization including the case of rapidly oscillating potentials ~~of Bensoussan~~  
~~J. L. Lions and Papanicolaou [3]~~, can be studied, and the limit problem computed, in a unified way, through general compactness and convergence results for sequences of functionals of calculus of variations. The convergence notion is taken in variational sense, more precisely ~~we use~~ *by* the notion of  $\Gamma$ -convergence introduced by De-Giorgi, [4].

*Tau*

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## SIGNIFICANCE AND EXPLANATION

In Mechanics, Physics, Chemistry it occurs frequently one has to study a boundary value problem in media with periodic structure. When the period of the structure is small compared to the size of the domain in which the system is studied, a microscopic description of the system is difficult, but one might expect to get a good macroscopic description of the system by making the period-parameter go to zero in the equations which describe it. This type of process is called "homogenization".

When the equations have a variational formulation, for example, when the solution  $u_\epsilon$  of the microscopic problem (with period  $\epsilon$ ) minimizes a functional  $F_\epsilon$  (which is in general related to the "energy" of the system) over a space  $X$  (the boundary conditions are included in  $X$ ), one looks for a limit functional  $F_0$  such that  $u$ , the limit of  $u_\epsilon$ , minimizes  $F_0$  over  $X$ . We can say that  $F_0$  is the limit of the sequence  $F_\epsilon$  in the "variational sense". In recent years this type of convergence, called " $\Gamma$ -convergence" (notion introduced by E. De Giorgi) has been intensively studied.

Using recent results of compactness and convergence (in  $\Gamma$ -sense) for a large class of functionals of calculus of variations we can attack many different problems of homogenization with a unified point of view. For example, one can explain the behaviour of  $u_\epsilon$ , solution of the following equation with "rapidly oscillating potentials" (studied by Bensoussan, Lions, and Papanicolau)  $\mu u_\epsilon = \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W(\frac{x}{\epsilon}) u_\epsilon = f$  on  $\tilde{\Omega}$ ;  $u_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ , as  $\epsilon$  goes to zero.  $W$  is a periodic function (in each variable) from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ , with zero mean value. Actually, one can prove that  $u_\epsilon$  converges and compute the limit equation.

# AN ENERGETIC APPROACH TO HOMOGENIZATION PROBLEMS WITH

## RAPIDLY OSCILLATING POTENTIALS\*

Hedy Attouch†

Introduction. The model problem, studied by B.L.P. [2], of homogenization with rapidly oscillating potentials, is the following:

Let  $W$  be an  $Y$ -periodic function ( $Y$  is a basic cell in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) with zero mean value, and  $u_\epsilon$  the solution (which exists for  $\epsilon$  large enough) of:

$$(I_\epsilon) \quad \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}\right) u_\epsilon = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad u_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero, one can prove that  $u_\epsilon$  converge weakly in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  to a solution of:

$$(I) \quad \Delta u + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

We denote by  $M(WX)$  the mean value of  $WX$  and  $X$  is defined by:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta X = W \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic.} \end{cases}$$

a) Since  $u_\epsilon$  converge in weak- $H_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} W\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}\right) u_\epsilon$  converge (to zero) in weak- $H^{-1}(\Omega)$ , it is rather surprising one can go to the limit on the product  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} W\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}\right) u_\epsilon$ . Moreover its limit depends on the partial differential operator you work with in the equation  $(I_\epsilon)$ . (Here we took the Laplacian). We shall first give a direct energetic solution to the model problem, and emphasize on the fact that the sequence  $\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}\right) u_\epsilon\right)_{\epsilon>0}$  converge to  $M(WX)u$  in weak- $H^{-1}(\Omega)$  and that one cannot expect a stronger convergence.

b) Then, we give an energetic interpretation of the previous problem showing that it is a particular case of the more general problem which consists in computing the

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limit (in variational sense) of sequences of functionals of the following type:

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}, u, Du\right) dx$$

where  $f$  is  $Y$ -periodic in  $x$ , and convex in  $(u, Du)$ , and satisfies boundedness and coerciveness assumptions.

This approach leads us to study more general problems than  $(I_\epsilon)$  and to some conjectures concerning the convergence of such general sequences  $F_\epsilon$ :

c) We obtain, through direct computational method, the limit equation when  $f$  is quadratic in  $(u, Du)$ ; so we treat in a unified way, homogenization problems with first order terms (cf. [2]), with oscillating potentials, ---. As an example, let us consider

$$(II_\epsilon) \quad \mu u_\epsilon - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) u_\epsilon = f \text{ on } \Omega; u_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

where the coefficients  $a_{ij}$  are in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $Y$ -periodic, and the associated second order operators uniformly elliptic. Don't assume the  $a_{ij}$  symmetric. We observe that ( $\mu$  is taken large enough) the sequence  $\left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} W \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) u_\epsilon \right)_{\epsilon > 0}$  converge to a first order term in weak- $H^{-1}(\Omega)$  and prove that  $u_\epsilon$  converge weakly in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  to  $u$  solution of:

$$(II) \quad \mu u + A(u) + \sum_i M \left( \alpha_i - \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial X^j}{\partial x_i} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

where  $A$  is the classical homogenized operator of the family  $A^\epsilon = - \sum \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right)$ , (cf. Theorem 1 for a complete statement and definitions of  $\alpha_i$ ,  $X^i$ ,  $X$ ). When the coefficients are symmetric,  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ , (II) reduces to

$$(II)_{bis} \quad \mu u + A(u) + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

d) We then study natural extensions of the previous results for higher order operators, studying with particular attention the limit in variational sense of the functionals

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}, u, Du, D^2u\right) dx,$$

when  $f$  is  $Y$ -periodic in  $x$ , and quadratic in  $(u, Du, D^2u)$ , (cf. Theorems 3, 4, 5).

This allows us to describe, for example, the limit of  $u_\epsilon$  solution of

$$(IV)_\epsilon \quad \mu u_\epsilon + \Delta^2 u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_1 u_\epsilon = f$$

and more generally of  $u_\epsilon$  solution of

$$(VIII)_\epsilon \quad \mu u_\epsilon + \Delta^2 u_\epsilon + W_{0,\epsilon} \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_{1,\epsilon} \operatorname{div} u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_{2,\epsilon} u_\epsilon = f$$

as  $\epsilon$  goes to zero; (we assume the  $W_i$  have zero mean value) (cf. Theorem 6).

Then we study the general compactness and convergence problem (Theorem 7 and Theorem 8).

#### Plan.

#### I. Homogenization with rapidly oscillating potentials for second order operators

- 1.1. Study of the model problem.
- 1.2. Energetic interpretation.
- 1.3. Homogenization results for quadratic integral functionals in  $(u, Du)$ .
- 1.4. Homogenization with lower order terms.
- 1.5. Study of the general problem. Conjecture.

#### II. Study of higher order problems

- 2.1 Study of the model problem.
- 2.2 Homogenization of variational problems for integral functionals, quadratic in  $(u, Du, D^2u)$ .
- 2.3 Energetic interpretation and general problem.

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# I. Homogenization with rapidly oscillating potentials for second order operators

## 1.1. Study of the model problem.

Proposition 1. Let  $W$  be a  $Y$ -periodic function with zero mean value; as  $\epsilon$  goes to zero, the solution  $u_\epsilon$  (which exist, if taking  $\mu$  large enough) of

$$(I_\epsilon) \quad \mu u_\epsilon - \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon}\right) u_\epsilon = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

converge in weak- $H_0^1(\Omega)$  to  $u$  solution of

$$(I) \quad \mu u - \Delta u + W(X)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

where  $X$  is defined by (1.1)  $\begin{cases} \Delta X = W \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic.} \end{cases}$

### Proof of Proposition 1.

a) The existence of  $u_\epsilon$  solution of  $(I_\epsilon)$ , for  $\mu$  large enough, follows easily from the coerciveness of the bilinear form  $a_\epsilon(\cdot, \cdot)$  associated with  $(I_\epsilon)$ : (from now on, given  $G$  a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we shall write  $G_\epsilon(x) = G(\frac{x}{\epsilon})$ ). From (1.1) we get

$$(1.2) \quad \Delta(cX_\epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon; \text{ it follows that}$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u^2 dx = \int_{\Omega} \Delta(cX_\epsilon) u^2 dx = 2 \int_{\Omega} (DX)_\epsilon \cdot u \cdot Du dx,$$

and

$$a_\epsilon(u, u) \geq \mu |u|_2^2 + |Du|_2^2 - 2|DX|_\infty |u|_2 |Du|_2 \geq \rho_0 \|u\|_{H_0^1}^2$$

for  $\mu$  large enough and some  $\rho_0 > 0$ . From the uniform coerciveness of the  $(a_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$ , the  $(u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  are bounded in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

b) Let  $u_\epsilon \rightharpoonup u$  in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ , as  $\epsilon$  goes to zero and let us identify  $u$  as the solution of  $(I)$ : The only problem is to compute the limit in weak- $H^{-1}(\Omega)$  of the sequence

$\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon\right)_{\epsilon>0}$ : Given  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  (a  $C^\infty$  function with compact support) let us look to

$$I_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon \varphi dx; \text{ from (1.2)}$$

$$I_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \Delta(cX_\epsilon) u_\epsilon \varphi dx; \text{ integrating by parts}$$

$$I_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} cX_\epsilon [\Delta u_\epsilon \varphi + 2Du_\epsilon \cdot D\varphi + u_\epsilon \Delta \varphi] dx \text{ and using that } u_\epsilon \text{ satisfied } (I_\epsilon)$$

$$I_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} cX_\epsilon [(u_\epsilon)_r + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon - f]v + 2Du_\epsilon Dv + u_\epsilon \Delta v dx; \text{ when } \epsilon \text{ goes to zero}$$

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} I_\epsilon = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} cX_\epsilon \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon v dx = M(WX) \int_{\Omega} u v dx \text{ that is to say}$$

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon \xrightarrow{w-H^{-1}} M(WX)u \text{ and } u \text{ satisfies the limit equation (I).}$$

Remark 1. From (1.2) we get:

$$\begin{aligned} W_\epsilon \in H_0^1(\Omega), \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon v dx &= \int_{\Omega} \Delta(cX_\epsilon) u_\epsilon v dx = \int_{\Omega} (DX_\epsilon) [Du_\epsilon v + u_\epsilon Dv] dx \\ &\leq 2 \|DX_\epsilon\|_{\infty} \|u_\epsilon\|_{H_0^1} \|v\|_{H_0^1} \leq C \|v\|_{H_0^1}. \end{aligned}$$

In fact we cannot expect a better estimate, than the  $H^{-1}(\Omega)$  one, on the sequence  $(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon)$ : If the  $(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  were bounded in  $L^2$ , then  $\mu u_\epsilon - \Delta u_\epsilon$  would be bounded in  $H^2$ , the  $u_\epsilon$  would be bounded in  $H^2$ , hence compact in  $H_0^1$ ; since  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon$  goes to zero in  $w-H^{-1}$ , the product  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon$  would go to zero, which is not the case if  $W \neq 0$ .

Remark 2. A rather unsuspected result is that, despite the fact that the sequence  $(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  is bounded only in  $H^{-1}$ , its limit is still a zero order term; actually this is relevant to the particular form of the equation  $(I_\epsilon)$ ; we shall see next a more general situation where this is no more the case (cf. Theorem 1).

Remark 3. The limit of  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon$ , which is equal to  $(-\frac{1}{|V|} \int_Y |DX|^2 dy)u$ , depends on the differential operator which governs the equation: since  $X$  is defined by  $\Delta X = W$ , if instead of  $(I_\epsilon)$  we consider (for simplicity)

$$\mu u_\epsilon - \lambda \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon = f \quad (\lambda > 0),$$

then, the limit equation will be:

$$\mu u - \lambda \Delta u + \frac{1}{\lambda^2} M(WX)u = f.$$

## 1.2. Energetic interpretation.

Let us interpret now the behaviour of  $u_\epsilon$  solution of

$$(I_\epsilon) \quad \mu u_\epsilon - \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad u_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$



a) The solution  $u_c$  of  $(I_c)$  minimizes the functional  $F_c(\cdot) = (f, \cdot)$  where

$$F_c(u) = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mu |u|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |Du|^2 + \frac{1}{2c} W_c |u|^2 dx ;$$

In fact, introducing  $X$  the solution of (1.1)  $\begin{cases} \Delta X = W \\ X \text{ Y-periodic} \end{cases}$ , which exists since

$\int_Y W(y) dy = 0$ , we may write  $F_c$  in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} F_c(u) &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mu |u|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |Du|^2 + \frac{1}{2} c \Delta X_c \cdot u^2 dx \text{ and integrating by parts,} \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mu u^2 + \frac{1}{2} |Du|^2 - (DX)_c u \cdot Du dx . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$F_c(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{c}, u, Du\right) dx$$

with

$$f(x, \xi, z) = \frac{1}{2} |z|^2 + \sum_1 \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_1}(x) \xi x_1 + \frac{1}{2} \mu \xi^2 .$$

Taking  $\mu$  large enough in order  $f$  to be positive (for example  $\mu > \frac{1}{2} \int \left| \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_1} \right|^2$  a.e.),

$f$  will be a positive quadratic form in  $(\xi, z)$  and hence convex; moreover

$V(x, \xi, z) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\lambda_0 |z|^2 \leq f(x, \xi, z) \leq \lambda_0 |(x, \xi, z)|^2$ . It follows that the corresponding functional  $F_c$  is strictly convex coercive on  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  and that the only solution of the corresponding Euler equation  $(I_c)$  is the unique point  $u_c$ , where  $F_c$  assume its minimum.

b) From H. Attouch [1], (Theorem 2.1) it follows that the family of convex functionals  $(F_c)_{c>0}$  is compact with respect to the  $\Gamma^-(W - \mu_0^1)$  and all  $\Gamma^-(L^p)$  convergence. (This result is an extension of the compactness result of Carbone and Sbordone [3] to the case where the functionals depend on  $u$  and  $Du$ , which is precisely our situation.)

Let us give the precise statement we use:

Theorem A (cf. [1]). Let  $f_h : (x, \xi, z) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto f_h(x, \xi, z)$  a sequence of functions measurable in  $x$ , convex continuous in  $(\xi, z)$  positives,  $f_h(x, 0, 0) = 0$ ; let us define for every  $\Omega$  bounded open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$F_h(u, \Omega) = \begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} f_h(x, u(x), Du(x)) dx & \text{if } u \in \text{Lip}_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n) \\ +\infty & \text{if } u \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n) \setminus \text{Lip}_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n) \end{cases}$$

and let us assume:

(H)  $\exists a \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\varphi$  continuous increasing in  $|\xi|, |z|$  such that

$$\forall h \in \mathbb{N}, \quad 0 \leq f_h(x, \xi, z) \leq a(x)\varphi(|\xi|, |z|).$$

Then, the following conclusion holds:

a) There exist a subsequence  $(h(p))_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $\forall \Omega$  bounded open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\forall u \in \text{Lip}_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$F(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(L^1(\Omega)) \lim_{\substack{p \rightarrow +\infty \\ v \rightarrow u}} F_{h(p)}(v, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(L^\infty(\Omega)) \lim_{\substack{p \rightarrow +\infty \\ v \rightarrow u}} F_{h(p)}(v, \Omega) \text{ exist.}$$

b) There exists a function  $f$  measurable in  $x$ , convex continuous in  $(\xi, z)$  such that  $\forall \Omega$  bounded open set,  $\forall u \in \text{Lip}_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$F(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f(x, u(x), Du(x)) dx.$$

$\gamma$ ) If  $\lambda_0 |z|^p \leq f_h(x, \xi, z) \leq \lambda_0 (1 + |\xi|^p + |z|^p)$  for some  $p > 1$  then the conclusion extends to the whole space  $W^{1,p}_0(\Omega)$  and  $\forall \Omega$  bounded open set,  $\forall u \in W^{1,p}_0(\Omega)$

$$F(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(W^{1,p}_0(\Omega)) \lim_{\substack{p \rightarrow +\infty \\ v \rightarrow u}} F_{h(p)}(v, \Omega).$$

So we may consider the problem of homogenization  $(I_\varepsilon)$  as a particular case (more precisely of quadratic type) of the general problem of computing the limit in variational sense of the following sequence of functionals

$$(P) \quad F_\varepsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, u, Du\right) dx \quad \text{where } f \text{ is } \begin{cases} Y\text{-periodic in } x \\ \text{convex in } (\xi, z) \end{cases}$$

and satisfies some boundedness and coerciveness assumptions; for simplicity let us assume

$$\lambda_0 |z|^p \leq f(x, \xi, z) \leq \lambda_0 (1 + |\xi|^p + |z|^p) \quad \text{with } p > 1.$$

What the preceding theorem tells us is that, if  $F^\varepsilon$  converge, its limit  $F_0$  is still of the form  $F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x, u, Du) dx$ ; this implies that the sequence  $(u_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon > 0}$ , where  $u_\varepsilon$  minimizes  $F_\varepsilon$  converge to  $u$  which minimizes  $F_0$ .

Two particular cases of problem (P) have been intensely studied:

1.  $f(x, \xi, z) = f(x, \xi)$  ( $f$  is independent of  $z$ ); from Marcellini and Sbordone [1]

it follows that  $F_\epsilon$  converge to  $F_0$  where

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(u) dx \quad \text{and} \quad f_0(\xi) = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, \xi) dx.$$

2.  $f(x, \xi, z) = f(x, z)$  ( $f$  is independent of  $\xi$ ); it follows from Carbone and Sbordone [3] that  $F_\epsilon$  converge to  $F_0$  where

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(Du) dx \quad \text{and} \quad f_0(z) = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, Du + z) dx, u \text{ Y-periodic} \right\}.$$

We are now going to study in the next paragraph the general situation corresponding to the model problem, that is to say the case where  $f$  is quadratic in  $(\xi, z)$ . (We may also notice that the case  $f(x, \xi, z) = f_1(x, \xi) + f_2(x, z)$ , is a straightforward extension of the previous ones.)

### 1.3. Homogenization results for quadratic integral functionals in $(u, Du)$ .

The general form of a quadratic integral functional  $F_\epsilon$  will be:

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \sum b_i \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + c \left( \frac{x}{\epsilon} \right) u^2(x) \right\} dx$$

where the coefficients  $a_{ij}$ ,  $b_i$ ,  $c$  are  $Y$ -periodic; let us assume that

$$\sum a_{ij}(x) x_i x_j \geq \lambda |x|^2 \quad (a_{ij} = a_{ji})$$

and

$$c(x) \geq \mu$$

with  $\mu$  large enough in order the  $F_\epsilon$  to be convex, positive, uniformly coercive on  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

The Euler equation,  $\nabla F_\epsilon(u_\epsilon) = f$ , ( $f \in H^{-1}(\Omega)$ ) can be written:

$$(1.3) \quad - \sum \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) - \sum \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (b_i u_\epsilon) + \sum b_i \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} + 2c_\epsilon u_\epsilon = f$$

or equivalently

$$(1.4) \quad - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ \sum \left( \frac{\partial b_i}{\partial x_i} \right) \right] u_\epsilon + 2c_\epsilon u_\epsilon = f.$$

More generally, let us consider

$$(II_{\epsilon}) \quad - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_j} \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_{\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} + c_{\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u_{\epsilon}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

with  $a_{ij}$  non-necessary symmetric,  $W$   $Y$ -periodic with zero mean value; without loss of generality we may assume  $c \equiv 0$ ; the following theorem gives us the answer to the asymptotic comportment of  $u_{\epsilon}$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ :

Theorem 1. For  $\mu$  large enough, the solution  $u_{\epsilon}$  of

$$(II_{\epsilon}) \quad \mu u_{\epsilon} - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_j} \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_{\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} = f; \quad u_{\epsilon}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

exists, and  $u_{\epsilon}$  converge (as  $\epsilon$  goes to zero) to  $u$  solution of:

$$(II) \quad \mu u + A(u) + \sum_i M \left( a_i - \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial x_j^i}{\partial x_i} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

(1.5).  $A$  is the homogenized operator of the family  $(A^{\epsilon})_{\epsilon>0}$ ,  $A^{\epsilon}u = - \sum \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j})$ :

$$A = - \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \quad q_{ij} = M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial x_k^i}{\partial x_k} \right) \text{ and}$$

$$x^i \text{ is defined by } \begin{cases} A^*(x^i - x_i) = 0 \text{ with } A^* = - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}) \\ x^i \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} \quad (a_{ij}^* = a_{ji}) \end{cases}$$

$$(1.6). \quad X \text{ is defined by } \begin{cases} A^*X + W = 0 \text{ and,} \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} \end{cases}$$

$$(1.7) \quad \alpha_j = \sum_k a_{jk}^* \frac{\partial x_k^i}{\partial x_k}.$$

When the  $A^{\epsilon}$  are symmetric ( $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ ) or with constant coefficients the limit equation (II) reduces to

$$(II)_{bis} \quad \mu u + A(u) + M(WX)u = f.$$

Corollary 1. When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero the sequence of convex functionals ( $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ )

$$F_{\epsilon}(u) = \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \int b_i u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{2} c_{\epsilon} u^2 dx$$

converge in  $\Gamma^{-}(w - H_0^1)$  sense (we assume the  $a_{ij}$  uniformly elliptic and  $c \geq \mu$  with  $\mu$  large enough) to  $F_0$  which is equal to

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \frac{1}{2} M(c + WX) u^2 \right\} dx$$

where  $q_{ij}$  are defined in (1.5) (with  $A^* = A$ ) and  $X$  is defined by  $\begin{cases} AX = \sum_i \frac{\partial b_i}{\partial x_i} \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} \end{cases}$ .

Proof of Theorem 1.

a) As in the model problem the existence of  $u_\epsilon$ , solution of  $(II)_\epsilon$  follows from the coerciveness of the bilinear form  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  associated with  $(II)_\epsilon$ : From (1.6) one gets

$$(1.6)_{bis} \quad A_\epsilon^*(\epsilon X_\epsilon) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon = 0$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u^2 dx &= \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial(\epsilon X_\epsilon)}{\partial x_j} \right) u^2 dx \\ &= -2 \int_{\Omega} u \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* \left( \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} \right)_\epsilon \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} dx \\ &\leq 2 \sup_{i,j} |a_{ij}|_\infty \cdot |DX|_\infty \cdot \|u\|_2 \cdot \|Du\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$a_\epsilon(u, u) \geq \mu \|u\|_2^2 + \|Du\|_2^2 - c \|u\|_2 \cdot \|Du\|_2 \geq \rho_0 \|u\|_{H_0^1}^2$$

for  $\mu$  large enough and some  $\rho_0 > 0$ . From the uniformly coerciveness of the  $(a_\epsilon(\cdot, \cdot))_{\epsilon > 0}$  it follows that the  $(u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon > 0}$  are bounded in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ . Let  $u_\epsilon \xrightarrow{w - H_0^1} u$ , it is clear that  $(A_\epsilon^* u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon > 0}$  and  $(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon > 0}$  are bounded in  $H^{-1}(\Omega)$ ; we are going to compute their limits in weak- $H^{-1}$ :

b) First, look to the limit of  $(\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon > 0}$  as  $\epsilon$  goes to zero; from (1.6)<sub>bis</sub>,

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon = -A_\epsilon^*(\epsilon X_\epsilon) u_\epsilon = u_\epsilon \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} \right),$$

let us introduce

(1.7)

$$\alpha_i = \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial x}{\partial x_j},$$

then

$$\frac{1}{c} W_c u_c = u_c \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (x_i)_c$$

which is equal in distribution sense to

$$(1.8) \quad \frac{1}{c} W_c u_c = \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\alpha_i)_c u_c - \sum_i u_{i,c} \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i}.$$

The first term of the second member clearly converge in weak- $H^{-1}$ :

$$(1.9) \quad \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\alpha_i)_c u_c \xrightarrow{(c \rightarrow 0)} \sum_i M(\alpha_i) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}.$$

The second one is bounded in  $L^2(\Omega)$ , but we cannot compute directly its limit; given  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  let us consider

$$\begin{aligned} J_c &= - \int_\Omega \sum_i \alpha_{i,c} \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \varphi dx = - \int_\Omega \sum_i \left( \sum_j a_{ij,c}^* \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (x_j)_c \right) \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \varphi dx \\ J_c &= - \int_\Omega \sum_j \frac{\partial (x_j)_c}{\partial x_j} \cdot \left( \sum_i a_{ij,c}^* \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi dx \text{ and integrate by parts} \\ &= \int_\Omega c x_c \left[ \varphi \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( a_{ij,c}^* \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \right) + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij,c}^* \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right] dx \\ J_c &= \int_\Omega c x_c \left[ -\varphi \cdot A^c u_c + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij,c}^* \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right] dx. \end{aligned}$$

We now use that  $u_c$  is a solution of  $(II_c)$ :

$$J_c = \int_\Omega c x_c \left[ \varphi (u u_c + \frac{1}{c} W_c u_c - f) + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij,c}^* \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right] dx.$$

Going to the limit (as  $c \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow 0} J_c = J = M(WX) \int_\Omega u \varphi dx,$$

that is to say

$$(1.10) \quad - \sum_i \alpha_{i,c} \frac{\partial u_c}{\partial x_i} \xrightarrow{(c \rightarrow 0)} M(WX) u;$$

from (1.8), (1.9), (1.10) we get

$$(1.11) \quad \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon \xrightarrow[\epsilon \rightarrow 0]{W = H^{-1}} \sum_1 N(\lambda_1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} + M(WX)u.$$

c) In order to compute the limit equation and to avoid computing twice the same limits, from (1.8), we write the equation  $(II_\epsilon)$  in the following form:

$$u u_\epsilon = \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) + \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{i\epsilon} u_\epsilon) = f + \sum_i a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i}.$$

Let us define the family of uniformly elliptic operators  $(B^\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$ :

$$(1.12) \quad B^\epsilon v = \mu v = \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_j} \right) + \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{i\epsilon} v).$$

Our problem reduces computing the limit  $B$  of the sequence  $(B^\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  in variational sense (that is to say the homogenized operator of the  $(B^\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$ ); since  $f + \sum_i a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i}$  converge in weak- $L^2$  (hence in strong  $H^{-1}$ ) to  $f + N(WX)u$  the limit equation will be:

$$(1.13) \quad B(u) + N(WX)u = f.$$

d) Let us compute  $B$ ; given  $g$  in  $L^2(\Omega)$ , let  $v_\epsilon$  be the solution of

$$(1.14) \quad \mu v_\epsilon = \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial v_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) + \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{i\epsilon} v_\epsilon) = g \quad v_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

Let us introduce

$$\xi_i^\epsilon = \sum_j a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial v_\epsilon}{\partial x_j}$$

and let us extract weakly converging subsequences  $\xi_i^\epsilon \xrightarrow[W = L^2]{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \xi_i$ ,  $v_\epsilon \xrightarrow[W = H_0^1]{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} v$ . The limit equation will be

$$(1.15) \quad \mu v = \sum_i \frac{\partial \xi_i}{\partial x_i} + \sum_i N(a_{i\epsilon}) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} = g.$$

The problem is to identify the  $\xi_i$ ; just like in the construction of the homogenized operator  $A$  of the family  $(A^\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  let us introduce  $X^i$  solution of

$$(1.16) \quad \begin{cases} A^*(X^i - x_i) = 0 \text{ and } w^i = x_i - X^i \\ X^i \text{ Y-periodic.} \end{cases}$$

Given  $v \in C_0^\infty(\omega)$  let us multiply (1.14) by  $\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i \varphi$  and integrate over  $\omega$ : let

$$K_\varepsilon = \int_\omega \sum_j \varepsilon_j^\varepsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i dx + \int_\omega \sum_j \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_j} \varepsilon \left( \sum_k a_{kj} \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) \right) \varphi dx - \int_\omega \sum_j a_{ij} v \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) dx,$$

$$K_\varepsilon = a_\varepsilon + b_\varepsilon + c_\varepsilon.$$

Then the identity we get can be written

$$(1.17) \quad K_\varepsilon = (g - \mu v_\varepsilon, \varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i \varphi).$$

Let us compute the limits of  $a_\varepsilon$ ,  $b_\varepsilon$ ,  $c_\varepsilon$ : since

$$\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i = x_i - \varepsilon X_\varepsilon^i, \quad \varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i \xrightarrow{(\varepsilon \rightarrow 0)} x_i$$

which implies

$$(1.18) \quad a_\varepsilon \xrightarrow{(\varepsilon \rightarrow 0)} \int_\omega \sum_j \varepsilon_j^\varepsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} x_i dx.$$

Integrating by parts,

$$b_\varepsilon = - \int_\omega v v_\varepsilon \sum_{k,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( a_{kj} \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) \right) dx - \int_\omega v_\varepsilon \sum_j \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \left( \sum_k a_{kj} \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) \right) dx.$$

From (1.16)  $A^* w^i = 0$ , and  $A_\varepsilon^* (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) = 0$ ; therefore

$$b_\varepsilon = - \int_\omega v_\varepsilon \sum_j \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \left( \sum_k a_{kj} \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) \right) dx.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) = \delta_{ik} - \left( \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \right)_\varepsilon,$$

$b_\varepsilon$  may be written

$$b_\varepsilon = - \int_\omega v_\varepsilon \sum_j \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \right)_\varepsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} dx$$

and

$$(1.19) \quad b_\varepsilon \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} - \sum_j M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \right) \int_\omega v \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} dx.$$

Let us look finally to  $c_\varepsilon$ :

$$c_\varepsilon = - \int_\omega \sum_j a_{ij} v_\varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\varepsilon w_\varepsilon^i) dx,$$



$$c_\epsilon = - \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \alpha_j v_\epsilon w_\epsilon^i \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} dx - \int_{\Omega} \alpha_i v_\epsilon \varphi dx + \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \alpha_j v_\epsilon \left( \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \varphi dx ,$$

$$(1.20) \quad c_\epsilon \frac{1}{(\epsilon + 0)} = \sum_j M(\alpha_j) \int_{\Omega} v \cdot x_i \cdot \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} dx - M(\alpha_i) \int_{\Omega} v \varphi dx + \sum_j M \left( \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \int_{\Omega} v \varphi dx .$$

From (1.17), (1.18), (1.19), (1.20) it follows

$$(1.21) \quad \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \xi_j \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} x_i dx - \sum_j M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_k} \right) \int_{\Omega} v \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} dx - \sum_j M(\alpha_j) \int_{\Omega} v \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (x_i \varphi) dx \\ + \sum_j M \left( \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \int_{\Omega} v \varphi dx = \int_{\Omega} (g - \mu v) x_i \varphi dx .$$

On the other hand, multiplying (1.14) by  $x_i \varphi$ , integrating over  $\Omega$ , and going to the limit as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we get:

$$(1.22) \quad \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \xi_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (x_i \varphi) dx - \sum_j M(\alpha_j) \int_{\Omega} v \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (x_i \varphi) dx = \int_{\Omega} (g - \mu v) x_i \varphi dx .$$

From (1.21) and (1.22) we get

$$(1.23) \quad \int_{\Omega} \xi_i \varphi dx = - \sum_j M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_k} \right) \int_{\Omega} v \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} dx + \sum_j M \left( \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \int_{\Omega} v \varphi dx .$$

Since this is true for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  we get the following equality (in distribution sense):

$$(1.24) \quad \xi_i = \sum_j M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_k} \right) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_j} + M \left( \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) v .$$

From (1.15) the limit equation is

$$(1.25) \quad \mu v = \sum_{i,j} M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_k} \right) \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + \sum_i M \left( \alpha_i - \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} = f ,$$

$$(1.26) \quad Bv = Av + \sum_i M \left( \alpha_i - \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} .$$

e) From (1.13) the limit equation is

$$(II) \quad \mu u + A(u) + \sum_i M \left( \alpha_i - \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 .$$

Let us look in detail to the coefficients of the first order term: by definition,

$A^* X^i = - \int \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (a_{ki}^*)$ ; let us multiply by  $X$  and integrate by parts: we get

$$\int_Y \sum_k a_{kj}^* \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} dx = \int_Y \sum_k a_{ki}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} dx ;$$

on the other hand

$$\int_Y \sum_j \alpha_j \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_j} dx = \int_Y \sum_k a_{jk}^* \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} .$$

Since

$$\int_Y \alpha_i dx = \int_Y \sum_k a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial Y}{\partial x_k} dx$$

we see that all these quantities are equal when the coefficients are symmetric; in that case the limit equation reduces to

$$(II)'_{bis} \quad \mu u + A(u) + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 .$$

This is also the case if the coefficients are constant ( $M(\alpha_i) \neq 0$ ).

Remark 4. We may write the equation (II') in the following form

$$A^\epsilon u_\epsilon = f - \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon - \mu u_\epsilon .$$

We know that  $A^\epsilon \rightarrow A$  in variational sense (or in G-sense) which clearly implies that:

$$V(v_\epsilon, g_\epsilon) \in A^\epsilon \quad v_\epsilon \xrightarrow{W - H_0^{-1}} v, \quad g_\epsilon \xrightarrow{s - H^{-1}} g \implies (u, g) \in A .$$

But we cannot use this argument in order to go to the limit since the sequence

$(f - \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon - \mu u_\epsilon)$  converge only in weak- $H^{-1}$  its limit being equal to

$$f - \mu u - \sum M(\alpha_i) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} - M(WX)u .$$

Actually, the limit equation is not

$$\mu u + A(u) + \sum M(\alpha_i) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + M(WX)u = f !$$

So, the arguments developed in the proof of Theorem 1, justify and extend to the non-symmetric case the result of B.I.P. [2] (Theorem 12.6).

Another way of looking at and extending the previous results is to consider them as homogenization problems with lower order terms. That's what we are going to look at in the next paragraph.

#### 1.4. Homogenization with lower order terms.

We are going to prove the following statement:

**Theorem 2.** Let  $u$  be the solution ( $\mu$  is taken large enough, all the coefficients are  $Y$ -periodic, the  $(a_{ij})_{ij}$  are uniformly elliptic) of the following problem:

$$(III)_\epsilon \quad \mu u_\epsilon - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) + \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\gamma_i u_\epsilon) + \sum_i \beta_i \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad u_\epsilon|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero,  $u_\epsilon$  converge weakly to  $u$  in  $H_0^1$ , where  $u$  is the solution of:

$$(III) \quad \begin{cases} \mu u + A(u) + \sum_i M \left( \gamma_i - \sum_j \gamma_j \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + \sum_i M \left( \beta_i + \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta_j}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} - M \left( \sum_i \gamma_i \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial x_i} \right) u = f \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

where we denote:

$A$  is the classical homogenized operator of the  $(A_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  (cf. 1.5)

the  $x^i$  are defined in (1.5)

$\beta$  is defined by:

$$(1.27) \quad \begin{cases} A^* \beta = \sum_j \frac{\partial \beta_j}{\partial x_j} \\ \beta \text{ Y-periodic} \end{cases}$$

**Proof of Theorem 2.** From (1.12)  $(III)_\epsilon$  can be written:

$$(1.28) \quad B^\epsilon u_\epsilon + \sum_i \beta_i \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} = f.$$

The only problem is to compute the weak limit in  $L^2(\Omega)$  (let us call it  $n$ ) of the

sequence  $\left( \sum_i \beta_i \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} \right)_{\epsilon>0}$ ; the limit equation will be

$$(1.29) \quad Bu + n = f$$

with  $B$  given by (1.26):

$$(1.26) \quad Bu = \mu u + A(u) + \sum_i M \left( \gamma_i - \sum_j \gamma_j \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}.$$

From (1.27)  $A_\epsilon^*(\epsilon \beta_\epsilon) = \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\epsilon \beta_j)$ ; let us multiply (1.27) by  $\forall u_\epsilon$  and integrate by parts:

$$\int_{\Omega} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (c \beta_{\epsilon}) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\varphi u_{\epsilon}) dx = - \sum_i \int_{\Omega} \beta_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\varphi u_{\epsilon}) dx ;$$

this implies

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_i \beta_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi dx &= \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \beta_{i\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx + \int_{\Omega} \varphi \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (c \beta_{\epsilon}) \left( \sum_i a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \right) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_j} \right) u_{\epsilon} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx , \end{aligned}$$

$$(1.30) \quad - \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_i \beta_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi dx = a_{\epsilon} + b_{\epsilon} + c_{\epsilon} .$$

Clearly

$$(1.31) \quad a_{\epsilon} = \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \beta_{i\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx \xrightarrow{(c \rightarrow 0)} \sum_i M(\beta_i) \int_{\Omega} u \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx ,$$

$$(1.32) \quad c_{\epsilon} = \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_j} \right) u_{\epsilon} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx \xrightarrow{(c \rightarrow 0)} \sum_i M \left( \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_j} \right) \int_{\Omega} u \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx .$$

Let us consider

$$b_{\epsilon} = \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (c \beta_{\epsilon}) \left( \sum_i a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi dx$$

and integrate by parts

$$b_{\epsilon} = - \int_{\Omega} c \beta_{\epsilon} \left[ \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right] dx .$$

Using that  $u_{\epsilon}$  satisfies (III)

$$b_{\epsilon} = - \int_{\Omega} c \beta_{\epsilon} \left[ \varphi \left( \Delta u_{\epsilon} + \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\gamma_i u_{\epsilon}) + \sum_i \beta_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} - f \right) + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right] dx .$$

Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} b_{\epsilon} &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left\{ - \int_{\Omega} c \beta_{\epsilon} \varphi \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\gamma_i u_{\epsilon}) dx \right\} \\ &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \gamma_i u_{\epsilon} \left( c \beta_{\epsilon} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + \left( \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi \right) dx \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(1.33) \quad b_\varepsilon \frac{1}{(\varepsilon + 0)} N \left( \sum_i \gamma_i \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_i} \right) \int_\Omega u \varphi dx.$$

From (1.30), (1.31), (1.32), (1.33) we get:

$$(1.34) \quad - \int_\Omega \eta \varphi dx = \sum_i M(\beta_i) \int_\Omega u \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx + N \left( \sum_i \gamma_i \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_i} \right) \int_\Omega u \varphi dx + M \left( \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_j} \right) \int_\Omega u \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx,$$

$$(1.35) \quad \eta = \sum_i M \left( \beta_i + \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} - N \left( \sum_i \gamma_i \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_i} \right) u.$$

From (1.26), (1.29) and (1.35) the limit equation is:

$$(III) \quad \begin{cases} \mu u + A(u) + \sum_i \left\{ M \left( \gamma_i - \sum_j \gamma_j \frac{\partial X^1}{\partial x_j} \right) + M \left( \beta_i + \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_j} \right) \right\} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} - N \left( \sum_i \gamma_i \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_i} \right) u = f \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0. \end{cases}$$

Remark 5.

a) When  $\beta_i = -\gamma_i$  with  $\gamma_i = \sum_k a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k}$  (which was denoted  $\alpha_i$ , cf. (1.7), Thm.1) we get

$$\sum_i \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial x_i} = - \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} \right) = \Delta^* X$$

and, in (1.27), we can take  $\beta = X$ . It follows that

$$\beta_i + \sum_j a_{ij}^* \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_j} = - \sum_k a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} + \sum_k a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} = 0,$$

and

$$-N \left( \sum_i \gamma_i \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x_i} \right) = - \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \sum_{i,k} a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} dx$$

is equal to  $N(WX)$  since

$$N(WX) = - \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_\Omega \Delta^* X \, x dy = - \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_\Omega \sum_{i,k} a_{ik}^* \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} dx.$$

So, formula (III) reduces to (II) and we refind Theorem 1.

b) When  $\gamma_i = 0$ , we obtain Theorem 13.1 of B.L.P. [2].

#### 1.5. Study of the general problem; conjecture.

Let us consider the problem (P); how to compute the limit in variational sense of the sequence  $F_\varepsilon$  where

$$F_{\epsilon_k}(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon_k}, u, Du\right) dx$$

with  $f$   $Y$ -periodic in  $x$ , convex in  $(u, Du)$  and  $\lambda_0 |z|^p \leq f(x, \xi, z) \leq \Lambda_0 (1 + |\xi|^p + |z|^p)$ ,  $p \geq 1$ . From the general compactness Theorem A, one can extract a subsequence  $F_{\epsilon_k}$  and find a normal converge integrand  $g$  such that

$$\forall \Omega \in \mathcal{A}_{P_n} \quad \forall u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega) \quad F_0(u, \Omega) = \Gamma(w - W_0^{1,p}) \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_k}(\Omega, u)$$

where  $F_0(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} g(x, u, Du) dx$  ( $\mathcal{A}_{P_n}$  is the family of bounded open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ).

The problem is to identify  $g$ : in the three cases we already saw ( $f$  independent of  $\xi$ ,  $f$  independent of  $x$ ,  $f$  quadratic in  $(\xi, z)$ ), the integrand  $g$  does not depend on  $x$ . Actually, this is also true in the general case:

**Proposition 1.** The integrand  $g$  is independent of  $x$ .

**Proof of Proposition 1.** Following the proof of [1] Theorem 2.1, there exist a convex integrand  $f_0$  such that:

$$\forall (\xi, z) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \quad \forall \Omega \in \mathcal{A}_{P_n} \quad F_0(\xi + \langle z, \cdot \rangle, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x, \xi, z) dx$$

and

$$\forall u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega) \quad F_0(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x, u(x) - \langle Du(x), x \rangle, Du(x)) dx.$$

Let

$$u_{\epsilon_k} \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow +\infty]{L^1(\Omega)} \xi + \langle z, \cdot \rangle$$

such that

$$F_0(\xi + \langle z, \cdot \rangle, \Omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} F_{\epsilon_k}(u_{\epsilon_k}, \Omega),$$

$$F_{\epsilon_k}(u_{\epsilon_k}, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon_k}, u_{\epsilon_k}, Du_{\epsilon_k}\right) dx;$$

since  $f(\cdot, \xi, z)$  is  $Y$ -periodic

$$= \int_{\Omega + n_k^i \epsilon_k} f\left(\frac{x}{\epsilon_k}, u_{\epsilon_k}(x - n_k^i \epsilon_k), Du_{\epsilon_k}(x - n_k^i \epsilon_k)\right) dx.$$

Let  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be fixed and take  $n_k^i$  such that  $n_k^i \epsilon_k \leq x_0 \leq (n_k^i + 1) \epsilon_k$ . Therefore,  $|x_0 - n_k^i \epsilon_k| \leq \epsilon_k$ ; take  $\Omega = Y_c + x_1$  where  $c > 0$  and  $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are fixed. From

continuity assumptions on the functionals  $F_{c_k}$  (which follows from the convexity and uniform boundedness assumptions)

$$|F_{c_k}(u_{c_k}, Y_c + x_1) - F_{c_k}(v_k, Y_c + x_1 + x_0)| \rightarrow 0$$

where  $v_k$  is equal to  $u_{c_k}(\cdot - \frac{1}{n_k} c_k)$  on  $\Omega + \frac{1}{n_k} c_k$  and is extended with uniformly bounded derivatives to  $\Omega + x_0$ .

Since  $v_k$  converge to  $(\xi - \langle z, x_0 \rangle) + \langle z, \cdot \rangle$  in  $L^1(Y_c + x_0 + x_1)$

$$\begin{aligned} F_0(\xi - \langle z, x_0 \rangle + \langle z, \cdot \rangle, Y_c + x_0 + x_1) &\leq \liminf F_{c_k}(v_k, Y_c + x_1 + x_0) \\ &\leq \liminf F_{c_k}(u_{c_k}, Y_c + x_1) . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \int_{Y_c + x_0 + x_1} f_0(x, \xi - \langle z, x_0 \rangle, z) dx \leq \int_{Y_c + x_1} f_0(x, \xi, z) dx .$$

Making  $\epsilon$  go to zero, this implies

$$f_0(x_0 + x_1, \xi - \langle z, x_0 \rangle, z) \leq f_0(x_1, \xi, z)$$

that is to say

$$(1.36) \quad \forall (x_0, x_1) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \quad f_0(x_0 + x_1, \xi, z) \leq f_0(x_1, \xi + \langle z, x_0 \rangle, z) .$$

Writing  $x_1 = (x_1 + x_0) - x_0$  and applying once more (1.36), we get

$$(1.37) \quad \forall (x_0, x_1) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \quad f_0(x_1, \xi + \langle z, x_0 \rangle, z) \leq f_0(x_1 + x_0, \xi, z) .$$

From (1.36) and (1.37) it follows

$$(1.38) \quad \forall (x_0, x_1) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \quad \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R} \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad f_0(x_0 + x_1, \xi, z) = f_0(x_1, \xi + \langle z, x_0 \rangle, z)$$

and taking  $x_1 = 0$

$$(1.39) \quad f_0(x, \xi, z) = f_0(0, \xi + \langle z, x \rangle, z) ;$$

this implies

$$F_0(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x, u(x) - \langle Du(x), x \rangle, Du(x)) dx = \int_{\Omega} f_0(0, u(x), Du(x)) dx \quad \text{i.e.} \quad g(x, \xi, z) = f_0(0, \xi, z) .$$

**Remark 6.** It should be interesting to get a general answer to the problem: to know if, under periodicity conditions on  $x$  and convexity on  $(\xi, z)$  of  $f$ , the sequence

$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_\Omega f(\frac{x}{\epsilon}, u, Du) dx$  converge and what is its limit equal to. It seems reasonable to conjecture such a result. Let us consider now the problem of the identification of  $f$ .

If the integrand  $f$  is independent of  $x$ :

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_\Omega f(\frac{x}{\epsilon}, u) dx$$

the  $\Gamma$ -limit of  $F_\epsilon$  is equal to (cf. [5])

$$F_0(u) = \int_\Omega f_0(u) dx \text{ with } f_0(\xi) = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(y, \xi) dy.$$

If the integrand  $f$  is independent of  $\xi$

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_\Omega f(\frac{x}{\epsilon}, Du(x)) dx$$

the  $\Gamma$ -limit of  $F_\epsilon$  is equal to (cf. [3])

$$F_0(u) = \int_\Omega f_0(Du) dx \text{ with } f_0(x) = \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(y, Du + x) dy$$

where we denote  $W_Y$  the space of the  $Y$ -periodic functions in  $W^{1,p}$ .

A natural conjecture concerning the case where  $f$  depends on  $\xi$  and  $x$  would be that:

$$F_0(u) = \int_\Omega f_0(u, Du) dx \text{ with } f_0(\xi, x) = \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(y, \xi, Du + x) dy.$$

This formula is correct in the two preceding cases and in fact that is the one conjectured by Bensoussan, Lions and Papanicolaou [2], Remark 17.7.

We are going to prove that unfortunately it is not correct in the general case; in order to give a counter example we shall use the explicit computation we made of the limit functional in the quadratic case: Let us consider

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_\Omega \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \sum_i b_i(y) u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{2} c(y) u^2 \right\} dx.$$

That is to say

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_\Omega f(\frac{x}{\epsilon}, u, Du) dx$$

with

$$(1.37) \quad f(y, \xi, z) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}(y) z_i z_j + \sum_i b_i(y) \xi z_i + \frac{1}{2} c(y) \xi^2.$$



From Corollary 1, we know that

$$F_0 = \Gamma^-(W - H_0^1) \lim_{c \rightarrow 0} F_c$$

is equal to:

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \frac{1}{2} M(c + WX) u^2 \right\} dx.$$

That is to say

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(u, Du) dx$$

with

$$(1.38) \quad f_0(\xi, z) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} z_i z_j + \frac{1}{2} M(c + WX) \xi^2$$

where

$$(1.39) \quad q_{ij} = M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \right) \quad \Lambda(X^i) = \Lambda(x_i) = - \sum_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (a_{ki})$$

and

$$(1.40) \quad W = - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial b_i}{\partial x_i}, \quad \begin{cases} \Lambda(X) + W = 0 \\ X \text{ Y-periodic} \end{cases}$$

So, let us compute

$$I = \min_{W \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(y, \xi, Du + z) dy$$

and compare to  $f_0$ . Let  $u_{\xi, z}$  be a minimizing point for  $I$ : it satisfies

$$(1.41) \quad - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial u_{\xi, z}}{\partial x_j} \right) - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (a_{ij} z_j) - \xi \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} b_i = 0$$

equivalently

$$(1.41)_{bis} \quad \Lambda(u_{\xi, z} + \langle z, \cdot \rangle) = -\xi W.$$

From (1.40)

$$(1.42) \quad \Lambda(u_{\xi, z} + \langle z, \cdot \rangle) = \Lambda(\xi X).$$

From (1.42), we cannot conclude directly, since  $u_{\xi, z} + \langle z, \cdot \rangle$  is not Y-periodic; so we remark that

$$(1.39) \quad \Lambda X^i = \Lambda x_i \Rightarrow \Lambda(\langle z, \cdot \rangle) = \Lambda \left( \sum_i z_i X^i \right).$$

Therefore

$$A(u_{\xi,z} + \sum_i z_i x^i) = A(\xi X)$$

and now, we can conclude since  $\xi X$  and  $u_{\xi,z} + \sum_i z_i x^i$  are  $\gamma$ -periodic:

$$u_{\xi,z} + \sum_i z_i x^i = \xi X \quad (\text{up to a constant}),$$

which implies

$$(1.43) \quad Du_{\xi,z} + \sum_i z_i DX^i = \xi DX$$

and

$$(1.43)_{bis} \quad Du_{\xi,z} + z = \xi DX - \sum_k z_k DX^k + z.$$

It follows that:

$$I = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \left( \xi \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} - \sum_k z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} + z_i \right) \left( \xi \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} - \sum_l z_l \frac{\partial X^l}{\partial x_j} + z_j \right) \right. \\ \left. + \sum_i b_i \xi \left( \xi \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} - \sum_k z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} + z_i \right) + \frac{1}{2} c \xi^2 \right] dx.$$

Let us order the terms with respect to  $\xi^p$ ,  $p = 0, 1, 2$ :

$$I = \{\alpha + \beta \xi + \gamma \xi^2\}$$

with

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} z_i z_j + \sum_{i,j,k,l} a_{ij} z_k z_l \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X^l}{\partial x_j} - \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} z_k z_j - \sum_{i,j,l} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X^l}{\partial x_j} z_i z_l \right) dx,$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \frac{1}{2} \left( - \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_j} - \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} z_j + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} z_i \right) dx \\ + \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \sum_i b_i \left( z_i - \sum_k z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \right) dx,$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} + \sum_i b_i \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{2} c \right\} dx.$$

Computation of  $\alpha$ :

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} M \left( \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} z_i z_j + \sum_{k,l,i,j} a_{ij} z_k z_l \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X^l}{\partial x_j} - 2 \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} z_k z_j \right),$$

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} M \left( \sum_{i,j} \left[ a_{ij} + \sum_{k,l} a_{kl} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial X^j}{\partial x_l} - 2 \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \right] z_i z_j \right).$$

From (1.39)

$$AX^i = - \sum_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (a_{ki})$$

which implies

$$(AX^i, X^j) = \int_Y \sum_k a_{ki} \frac{\partial X^j}{\partial x_k} dx = \int_Y \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} dx ;$$

on the other hand

$$(AX^i, X^j) = \int_Y \sum_k a_{kl} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial X^j}{\partial x_l} dx .$$

It follows that

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} M \left( \sum_{i,j} \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial X^i}{\partial x_k} \right) z_i z_j \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} z_i z_j .$$

Computation of  $\gamma$ : From (1.40)

$$AX = \sum \frac{\partial b_i}{\partial x_i}$$

and

$$(AX, X) = - \sum \int_Y b_i \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} dx ;$$

on the other hand

$$(AX, X) = \sum \int_Y a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} dx .$$

Therefore

$$\gamma = - \frac{1}{2|Y|} \int_Y \sum a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} dx + \frac{1}{2|Y|} \int_Y c dx = \frac{1}{2} M(c + \gamma X) .$$

So, up to now the formula is correct.

Computation of  $\beta$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= M \left( - \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_j} z_k + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} z_j + \sum b_i \left( z_i - \sum_k z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \right) \right) \\ &= M \left( \sum_k \left[ - \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_j} + \sum_i a_{ij} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \right] z_k + \sum b_i \left( z_i - \sum_k z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \right) \right) . \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$AX^k = - \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{ik}) ,$$

$$\langle AX^k, X \rangle = \int_Y \sum_i a_{ik} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} dx ,$$

on the other hand

$$\langle AX^k, X \rangle = \int_Y \sum_j a_{ij} \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} dx$$

and  $\beta$  reduces to

$$\beta = M \left( \sum_i b_i \left( z_i - \sum_k z_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \right) \right) = \sum_i M \left( b_i - \sum_k b_k \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial x_i} \right) z_i$$

which is not in general equal to zero! (In the model example  $X^1 = 0$  and  $b_i = \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i}$ ,

so  $\beta = 0$  and the formula works!)

## II. Study of higher order problems

We are going to see in this paragraph that many of the preceding results extend to higher order problems.

### 2.1. Study of the model problem.

Let us give an energetic proof to the highly oscillating potential problem with the biharmonic operator (cf. B.L.P. [2] for this study through multiscale method).

Proposition 2. Let  $u_\epsilon$  (for  $\mu$  large enough) the solution of

$$(IV) \quad \mu u_\epsilon + \Delta^2 u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad u_\epsilon \in H_0^2(\Omega).$$

( $W$  is a  $Y$ -periodic function with zero mean value.)

When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero,  $u_\epsilon$  converge weakly in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$  to the solution  $u$  of

$$(IV) \quad \mu u + \Delta^2 u + M(WX)u = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad u \in H_0^2(\Omega)$$

where  $X$  is defined by

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta^2 X + W = 0 \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic.} \end{cases}$$

Proof of Proposition 2. As in the second order case, we remark that  $u_\epsilon$  satisfies the Euler equation associated with the functional  $F_\epsilon = (f, \cdot)$  where

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \mu u^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta u)^2 + \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} W_\epsilon u \right) dx, \quad u \in H_0^2(\Omega).$$

Noticing that  $\Delta^2(\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} W_\epsilon = 0$ , (from 2.1), we can rewrite  $F_\epsilon$ :

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \mu u^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta u)^2 - 2(\Delta X)_\epsilon \cdot (u \Delta u + |Du|^2) \right) dx.$$

It follows that for  $\mu$  large enough  $F_\epsilon$  is a convex coercive functional on  $H_0^2(\Omega)$  and that  $u_\epsilon$  minimizes  $F_\epsilon = (f, \cdot)$  over  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ .

Moreover, the  $F_\epsilon$  being uniformly coercive on  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ , the  $(u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon > 0}$  remain bounded in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ ; let  $u_\epsilon \xrightarrow{w - H_0^2} u$ .

In order to go to the limit on (IV) we have just to compute the weak-limit in  $H^{-2}(\Omega)$  of the sequence  $\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon$ ; let us introduce  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  and look to

$$I_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon \varphi dx = - \int_{\Omega} \Delta^2(\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) u_\epsilon \varphi dx;$$

integrating by parts

$$I_\epsilon = - \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X)_\epsilon (\Delta u_\epsilon \varphi + 2Du_\epsilon D\varphi + u_\epsilon \Delta \varphi) dx,$$

since  $u_\epsilon$  converge weakly to  $u$  in  $H_0^2$  (and strongly in  $H_0^1$ ), and  $(\Delta X)_\epsilon \xrightarrow{S(L^2, L^1)} 0$

$$(2.2) \quad I_\epsilon + \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X)_\epsilon \Delta u_\epsilon \varphi dx \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} 0,$$

making another integration by parts and using that  $u_\epsilon$  satisfies (IV) $_\epsilon$ , we get

$$(2.3) \quad - \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X)_\epsilon \Delta u_\epsilon \varphi dx = - \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon [\Delta^2 u_\epsilon \varphi + \Delta u_\epsilon \Delta \varphi + 2D\varphi D(\Delta u_\epsilon)] dx,$$

$$(2.3) \quad - \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X)_\epsilon \Delta u_\epsilon \varphi dx = - \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon \left[ (\epsilon - \mu u_\epsilon - \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon) \varphi + \Delta u_\epsilon \Delta \varphi + 2D\varphi D(\Delta u_\epsilon) \right] dx.$$

Let us consider the last term:

$$J_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon D\varphi D(\Delta u_\epsilon) dx = \sum_{i,j} \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\Delta u_\epsilon) dx$$

integrating by parts

$$(2.4) \quad J_\epsilon = - \sum_{i,j} \int_{\Omega} \Delta u_\epsilon \left[ \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + \epsilon \left( \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} \right)_\epsilon \right] dx \text{ goes to zero as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

From (2.2), (2.3), (2.4) it follows that

$$I_\epsilon \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} M(WX) \int_{\Omega} u \varphi dx \text{ which means that } \frac{1}{\epsilon} W_\epsilon u_\epsilon \xrightarrow{W = H^{-2}} M(WX)u$$

and we finally get the limit equation (IV).

## 2.2. Homogenization of variational problems for integral functionals, quadratic in $(u, Du, D^2u)$ .

The general form of the functionals we shall study in this paragraph is:

$$(2.5) \quad F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_j^2} + \sum b_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \sum c_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} u \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{2} \sum d_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + \sum e_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} u + \frac{1}{2} f_\epsilon u^2 \right\} dx$$

where all coefficients are  $Y$ -periodic, the  $(a_{ij})$  and  $(d_{ij})$  uniformly coercive:

$$\begin{cases} \sum a_{ij} \xi_i \xi_j \geq \lambda |\xi|^2 & (a_{ij} = a_{ji}) \\ \sum d_{ij} \xi_i \xi_j \geq \mu |\xi|^2 & (d_{ij} = d_{ji}) \\ f \geq \nu > 0 \end{cases}$$

with  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  large enough in order the  $F_\epsilon$  to be uniformly coercive over  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ .

We shall not give a complete answer to the problem which consists knowing if the sequence  $(F_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  converge in variational sense (in  $\Gamma^-(w - H_0^2)$  sense) and what is its limit equal to. We shall only explain on simpler situations (Theorem 3, Theorem 4, Theorem 5) how to deal with the higher order terms.

The Euler equation corresponding to the critical points of the functional  $F_\epsilon$  is:

$$(2.6) \quad \int \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \left( a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j^2} \right) + \int_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \left( b_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) - \int_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( b_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} \right) + \int \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (c_{i\epsilon} u_\epsilon) \\ + \int c_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} - \int_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( d_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) - \int \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (e_{i\epsilon} u_\epsilon) + \int e_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} + f_\epsilon u_\epsilon = f.$$

Theorem 3. Let  $u_\epsilon$  be the solution of

$$(V)_\epsilon \quad \mu u_\epsilon + \int \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j^2} \right) = f \text{ on } \Omega.$$

When  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,  $u_\epsilon$  converge weakly in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$  to  $u$  solution of

$$(V) \quad \mu u + \int q_{ij} \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x_i^2 \partial x_j^2} \text{ where } q_{ij} = N \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial^2 x^k}{\partial x_k^2} \right)$$

and  $x^i$  satisfies  $\begin{cases} \Delta x^i = \frac{1}{2} \Lambda(x_i^2) \text{ with } \Lambda = \int \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \left( a_{ij} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j^2} \right) \\ x^i \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} \end{cases}$

Proof of Theorem 3. The  $(u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  are bounded in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ ; let  $u_\epsilon \xrightarrow[\epsilon \rightarrow 0]{w - H_0^2} u$ . As in the second order problem, let us introduce

$$\xi_i^\epsilon = \int a_{ij\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j^2}.$$

The  $(\xi_i^\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  are bounded in  $L^2(\Omega)$ ; we can extract subsequences such that  $\xi_i^\epsilon \xrightarrow[w - L^2]{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \xi_i$ .

The problem is to identify the  $\xi_i$ . Given  $P$  an homogenous polynomial of degree two let us introduce  $X$  the solution of

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta X = \Lambda P \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} \end{cases}$$

and

(2.8)

$$W = P - X_1$$

(2.7), (2.8) imply that  $A(\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) = 0$  and  $\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon = P - \epsilon^2 X_1 \xrightarrow{W=H^2} P$ .

Let us multiply (V) $_\epsilon$  by  $\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon \psi$  where  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  and integrate over  $\Omega$ :

$$(2.9) \quad \mu \int_{\Omega} u_\epsilon \epsilon^2 w_\epsilon \psi dx + \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon \psi) dx = \int_{\Omega} \epsilon \epsilon^2 w_\epsilon \psi dx.$$

Let us look to

$$r_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \epsilon_i^c \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \psi + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_i} + \epsilon^2 w_\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_i^2} \right] dx = a_\epsilon + b_\epsilon + c_\epsilon,$$

$$b_\epsilon = 2 \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_i} dx \xrightarrow{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} 2 \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \epsilon_i \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_i} dx,$$

$$c_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \epsilon_i^c \epsilon^2 w_\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_i^2} dx \xrightarrow{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \epsilon_i P \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_i^2} dx,$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_\epsilon &= \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j^2} \left( \sum_i a_{ij} \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \psi \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} u_\epsilon \left[ \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j^2} \left( a_{ij} \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \right) \psi + 2 \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \sum_i a_{ij} \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_j} + \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_j^2} \right] dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A(\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) = 0$  the first term of the second member is equal to zero and  $a_\epsilon$  reduces to

$$a_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \sum_j \left( \sum_i a_{ij} \epsilon_i^c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\epsilon^2 w_\epsilon) \right) \left[ -2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} - u_\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_j^2} \right] dx$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} a_\epsilon \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} & \sum_j N \left( \sum_i a_{ij} \left( \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x_i^2} - \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial x_i^2} \right) \right) \int_{\Omega} -2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} - u \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_j^2} dx \\ &= \sum_j N \left( \sum_k a_{kj} \left( \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x_k^2} - \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial x_k^2} \right) \right) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_j^2} \psi dx. \end{aligned}$$

Going to the limit on (2.9) we get:



$$(2.10) \quad \mu \int_{\Omega} u P \varphi dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \varepsilon_i \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx + \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \varepsilon_i P \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x_i^2} dx \\ + \sum_j M \left( \sum_k a_{kj} \left( \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x_k^2} - \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x_k^2} \right) \right) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_j^2} \varphi dx = (f, \varphi P).$$

On the other hand multiplying (V)<sub>ε</sub> by  $\varphi P$ , integrating over  $\Omega$  and going to the limit we get:

$$(2.11) \quad \mu \int_{\Omega} u P \varphi dx + \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \varepsilon_i \left( P \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x_i^2} + 2 \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + \varphi \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x_i^2} \right) dx = (f, \varphi P).$$

From (2.10) and (2.11) it results:

$$(2.12) \quad \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \varepsilon_i \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x_i^2} dx = \sum_j M \left( \sum_k a_{kj} \left( \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x_k^2} - \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x_k^2} \right) \right) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_j^2} \varphi dx.$$

Taking  $P(x) = \frac{1}{2} x_i^2$ :

$$(2.13) \quad \varepsilon_i = \sum_j M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x_k^2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_j^2},$$

the limit equation is

$$(2.14) \quad \mu u + \sum_{i,j} M \left( a_{ij} - \sum_k a_{kj} \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x_k^2} \right) \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x_i^2 \partial x_j^2} = f.$$

Let us now describe how to deal with the terms of the form  $\sum b_{ij} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j}$  in  $F_\varepsilon$ :

Theorem 4. Given  $(b_i)_{i=1, \dots, n}$ ,  $Y$ -periodic functions, let us define

$$F_\varepsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ (\Delta u)^2 + \mu |Du|^2 + \Delta u \sum b_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right\} dx.$$

When  $\varepsilon$  goes to zero,  $F_\varepsilon$  converge in  $\Gamma^-(w - H_0^2)$  sense ( $\mu$  is taken large enough) to  $F_0$ :

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ (\Delta u)^2 + \mu |Du|^2 - \sum M(\Delta X^i, \Delta X^j) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} \right\} dx$$

where  $X^i$  satisfies  $\begin{cases} \Delta X^i + b_i - M(b_i) = 0 \\ X^i \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} \end{cases}$

Considering the Euler equation that means, that for any  $f \in H^{-2}$ , the solution  $u_\epsilon$  of

$$(VI)_\epsilon \quad \Delta^2 u_\epsilon - \mu \Delta u_\epsilon + \Delta \left( \sum_i b_i \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} \right) - \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (b_i \Delta u_\epsilon) = f$$

converge as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  to the solution  $u$  of

$$(VI) \quad \Delta^2 u - \mu \Delta u + \sum_{i,j} M(\Delta x^i \cdot \Delta x^j) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u \in H_0^2(\Omega).$$

Proof of Theorem 4. It is clear that for  $\mu$  large enough the functionals  $(F_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  are convex, uniformly coercive on  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ ; the  $(u_\epsilon)_{\epsilon>0}$  solutions of the corresponding Euler equations stay bounded in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ ; let  $u_\epsilon \xrightarrow{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} u$  and identify  $u$  as the solution of the limit equation (VI). The only problem is to compute the limit in weak  $H^{-1}$  of the sequence  $-\sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (b_i \Delta u_\epsilon)$ ; given  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  let us consider

$$I_\epsilon = \int_\Omega - \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (b_i \Delta u_\epsilon) \varphi dx = \int_\Omega \sum_i b_i \Delta u_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx$$

and introduce  $X^i$  solution of (2.15)  $\begin{cases} \Delta X^i + b_i - M(b_i) = 0 \\ X^i \text{ Y-periodic} \end{cases}$

Such  $X^i$  exists since  $M(b_i) - M(b_i) = 0$ . We can now write  $I_\epsilon$  in the following way:

$$I_\epsilon = \int_\Omega \sum_i (M(b_i) - \Delta(c^2 X_c^i)) \Delta u_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx,$$

$$I_\epsilon = \sum_i M(b_i) \int_\Omega \Delta u_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx - \int_\Omega \sum_i \Delta(c^2 X_c^i) \Delta u_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx.$$

The first term of the second member clearly converges to  $\sum_i M(b_i) \int_\Omega \Delta u \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx$ . Let us consider

$$J_\epsilon = - \int_\Omega \sum_i \Delta(c^2 X_c^i) \Delta u_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} dx$$

and integrate by parts

$$= \sum_i \int_\Omega c^2 X_c^i \left[ \Delta^2 u_\epsilon \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + 2D(\Delta u_\epsilon)D\left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i}\right) + \Delta u_\epsilon \Delta\left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i}\right) \right] dx$$

and using that  $u_\epsilon$  satisfies (VI)<sub>ε</sub>

$$= \sum_i \int_\Omega c^2 X_c^i \left[ \left( f + \mu \Delta u_\epsilon + \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (b_j \Delta u_\epsilon) - \Delta \left( \sum_j b_j \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) \right) \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + 2D(\Delta u_\epsilon)D\left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i}\right) + \Delta u_\epsilon \Delta\left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i}\right) \right] dx.$$

After reduction

$$J_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon^i \left[ \left( f + \mu \Delta u_\epsilon + \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (b_j)_\epsilon \Delta u_\epsilon - \sum_j \Delta (b_j)_\epsilon \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} - 2 \sum_j D(b_j)_\epsilon D \left( \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) \right) \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} + 2D(\Delta u_\epsilon) D \left( \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} \right) + \Delta u_\epsilon \Delta \left( \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} \right) \right] dx.$$

When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero, all the terms but one go to zero:

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} J_\epsilon = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon^i \left( -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \sum_j \Delta (b_j)_\epsilon \right) \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} dx = \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i,j} M(X^i \Delta (b_j)) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} dx.$$

Finally,

$$I_\epsilon \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sum_i M(b_i) \int_{\Omega} \Delta u \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} dx + \sum_{i,j} M(X^i \Delta (b_j)) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial x_i} dx;$$

that is to say:

$$- \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (b_i)_\epsilon \Delta u_\epsilon \frac{w - H^{-1}}{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} \rightarrow - \sum_i M(b_i) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \Delta u + \sum_{i,j} M(X^i \Delta (b_j)) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}.$$

Since

$$\Delta \left( \sum_i b_i \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} \right) \frac{w - H^{-2}}{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \rightarrow \Delta \left( \sum_i M(b_i) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right) = \sum_i M(b_i) \Delta \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

the limit equation is:

$$(VI) \quad \Delta^2 u - \mu \Delta u - \sum M(X^i \Delta b_j) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad u \in H_0^2(\Omega).$$

We remark that

$$M(X^i \Delta b_j) = - \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y \Delta X^i \Delta X^j dx$$

and that  $u$  minimizes  $\frac{1}{2} F_0 - (f, \cdot)$  with

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ (\Delta u)^2 + \mu |Du|^2 - \sum M(\Delta X^i \Delta X^j) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} \right\} dx.$$

Let us now consider the last type of higher order terms that appears in (2.6):

Theorem 5. Let us consider the sequence of functionals  $(F_\epsilon)_{\epsilon > 0}$

$$F_\epsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ (\Delta u)^2 + \mu u^2 + \sum_i a_i \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} \right\} dx$$

where the  $a_i$  are  $Y$ -periodic and  $\mu$  is taken large enough in order for the  $(F_\epsilon)$  to be uniformly coercive on  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ . When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero,  $F_\epsilon$  converge in  $\Gamma^{-}(w - H_0^2)$  sense to  $F_0$ :

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} \{ (\Delta u)^2 + |Du|^2 + \frac{1}{2} M((\Delta X)^2) u^2 \} dx$$

where

$$\Delta^2 X + \sum \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} = 0; \quad X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic}.$$

Considering the Euler equation that means that  $u$  solution of:

$$(VII)_\epsilon \quad \Delta^2 u_\epsilon + \mu u_\epsilon + \sum \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (a_{i\epsilon} u_\epsilon) + \sum a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} = f$$

converge in weak- $H_0^2$  to  $u$  solution of

$$(VII) \quad \Delta^2 u + \mu u = M((\Delta X)^2) u = f.$$

Proof of Theorem 5. The proof is just slightly different from the one of the model problem (IV) <sub>$\epsilon$</sub> : The only problem is to compute the limit of the sequence

$$\left( \sum a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} \right)_{\epsilon > 0}.$$

Let us introduce  $X$  solution of

$$(2.16) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta^2 X + \sum \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} = 0 \\ X \text{ is } Y\text{-periodic} . \end{cases}$$

From (2.16), (2.17)

$$\Delta^2 (\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) + \sum \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (a_{i\epsilon}) = 0;$$

multiplying (2.17) by  $\varphi u_\epsilon$ ,  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ :

$$(2.18) \quad \int_{\Omega} \Delta(\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) \Delta(\varphi u_\epsilon) dx + \int_{\Omega} \sum a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (\varphi u_\epsilon) dx = 0,$$

$$(2.19) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X)_\epsilon (\Delta \varphi u_\epsilon + 2D\varphi Du_\epsilon) dx + \int_{\Omega} \Delta(\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) \varphi \Delta u_\epsilon dx \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \sum a_{i\epsilon} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x_i^2} u_\epsilon + \frac{2\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\varphi \partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} \right) dx = 0 \end{aligned}$$

which implies, since  $(\Delta X)_\epsilon \xrightarrow{w-L^2} 0$ ,

$$(2.20) \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \Delta(\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) \varphi \Delta u_\epsilon dx + \int_{\Omega} \varphi \left( \sum_i a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} \right) dx \right\} = \sum_i M(a_i) \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x_i^2} u + \frac{2\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right\} dx$$

$$= - \sum_i M(a_i) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} \varphi dx.$$

Let us consider

$$J_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \Delta(\epsilon^2 X_\epsilon) \varphi \Delta u_\epsilon dx,$$

integrate by parts, and use that  $u_\epsilon$  satisfies (VII) $_\epsilon$ :

$$J_\epsilon = \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 X_\epsilon \left[ \Delta \varphi \Delta u_\epsilon + 2 \nabla \varphi \nabla (\Delta u_\epsilon) + \varphi \left( f - \mu u_\epsilon - 2 \sum_i a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} - 2 \sum_i \frac{\partial a_{i\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i} - \sum_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} (a_{i\epsilon} u_\epsilon) \right) \right] dx.$$

When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero

$$(2.21) \quad J_\epsilon \xrightarrow{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} - \sum_i M \left( X \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} \right) \int_{\Omega} \varphi u dx.$$

From (2.20) and (2.21) it follows

$$(2.22) \quad \int_{\Omega} \varphi \left( \sum_i a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} \right) dx \xrightarrow{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} \sum_i M \left( X \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} \right) \int_{\Omega} \varphi u dx - \sum_i M(a_i) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} \varphi dx$$

which means:

$$\sum_i a_{i\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 u_\epsilon}{\partial x_i^2} \xrightarrow{w-L^2} - \sum_i M(a_i) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} + \sum_i M \left( X \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} \right) u.$$

The limit equation is:

$$\Delta^2 u + \mu u + \sum_i M(a_i) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} - \sum_i M(a_i) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} + \sum_i M \left( X \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} \right) u = f,$$

(VII)

$$\Delta^2 u + \sum_i M \left( X \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} \right) u = f.$$

From (2.16),

$$M \left( \sum_i X \frac{\partial^2 a_i}{\partial x_i^2} \right) = -M((\Delta X)^2).$$

Remark 7. From Theorem 5 one can find easily the result of the model problem where

$$F_\varepsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mu u^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta u)^2 - 2(\Delta X)_\varepsilon u \Delta u - 2(\Delta X)_\varepsilon |Du|^2 dx.$$

It is clear that the contribution of the last term, in  $\Gamma^-(w - H_0^2)$  convergence, is zero; so, we apply Theorem 5, with  $a_1 = \Delta X$  and get the result of Proposition 2, remarking that  $M(WX) = -M((\Delta X)^2)$ .

Let us give finally the following example which is relevant of the same type of technique:

Theorem 6. Let  $(u_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon > 0}$  be the solutions of the following equations

$$(VIII)_\varepsilon \quad \mu u_\varepsilon + \Delta^2 u_\varepsilon + W_{0,\varepsilon} \Delta u_\varepsilon + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} W_{1,\varepsilon} \operatorname{div} u_\varepsilon + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} W_{2,\varepsilon} u_\varepsilon = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u_\varepsilon \in H_0^2(\Omega)$$

(we take  $\mu$  large enough) where the  $W_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2$ ) are  $Y$ -periodic functions with zero mean value.

When  $\varepsilon$  goes to zero,  $u_\varepsilon$  converge weakly in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$  to a solution of

$$(VIII) \quad \mu u + \Delta^2 u + M(W_2(X_2 - \operatorname{div} X_1 + \Delta X_0))u = f \text{ on } \Omega; \quad u \in H_0^2(\Omega)$$

where  $X_i$  is a solution of (2.23)  $\begin{cases} \Delta^2 X_i + W_i = 0 \\ X_i \text{ } Y\text{-periodic} \end{cases}$ .

Proof of Theorem 6. Let us consider

$$I_0^\varepsilon = \int_{\Omega} W_{0,\varepsilon} \Delta u_\varepsilon \varphi dx, \quad I_1^\varepsilon = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} W_{1,\varepsilon} \operatorname{div} u_\varepsilon \varphi dx, \quad I_2^\varepsilon = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} W_{2,\varepsilon} u_\varepsilon \varphi dx$$

where  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  and compute their respective limits when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Just like for the model problem, one can prove

$$(2.24) \quad I_2^\varepsilon \xrightarrow{(\varepsilon \rightarrow 0)} M(W_2 X_2) \int_{\Omega} u \varphi dx;$$

let us consider now  $I_0^\varepsilon$

$$I_0^\varepsilon = \int_{\Omega} W_{0,\varepsilon} \Delta u_\varepsilon \varphi dx \approx -\varepsilon^4 \int_{\Omega} \Delta X_{0,\varepsilon} \Delta u_\varepsilon \varphi dx,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
I_0^c &= -\epsilon^4 \int_{\Omega} \Delta X_{0,\epsilon} (\Delta^2 u_{\epsilon} \varphi + 2D(\Delta u_{\epsilon}) D\varphi + \Delta u_{\epsilon} \Delta \varphi) dx \\
&= -\epsilon^2 \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X_{0,\epsilon})_{\epsilon} [\epsilon - \mu u_{\epsilon} - w_{0,\epsilon} \Delta u_{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\epsilon} w_{1,\epsilon} \operatorname{div} u_{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} w_{2,\epsilon} u_{\epsilon}] \varphi dx \\
&\quad - \epsilon^2 \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X_{0,\epsilon})_{\epsilon} [2D(\Delta u_{\epsilon}) D\varphi + \Delta u_{\epsilon} \Delta \varphi] dx.
\end{aligned}$$

When  $\epsilon$  goes to zero we see that

$$(2.25) \quad I_0^c \rightarrow M(\Delta X_0 w_2) \int_{\Omega} u \varphi dx.$$

Let us now look to the last term  $I_1^c$ :

$$I_1^c = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\epsilon} w_{1,\epsilon} \operatorname{div} u_{\epsilon} \varphi dx = -\epsilon^3 \int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 (X_{1,\epsilon}) \operatorname{div} u_{\epsilon} \varphi dx,$$

$$I_1^c = \epsilon^3 \int_{\Omega} u_{\epsilon} [\Delta^2 (X_{1,\epsilon}) \operatorname{div} \varphi + \Delta^2 (\operatorname{div} X_{1,\epsilon}) \varphi] dx,$$

$$I_1^c = \epsilon^3 \int_{\Omega} \Delta (X_{1,\epsilon}) \Delta (u_{\epsilon} \operatorname{div} \varphi) dx + \epsilon^3 \int_{\Omega} \Delta (\operatorname{div} X_{1,\epsilon}) \Delta (u_{\epsilon} \varphi) dx = J_1^c + H_1^c,$$

$$J_1^c = \epsilon \int_{\Omega} (\Delta X_{1,\epsilon})_{\epsilon} (\Delta u_{\epsilon} \operatorname{div} \varphi + 2D u_{\epsilon} D(\operatorname{div} \varphi) + u_{\epsilon} \operatorname{div} (\Delta \varphi)) dx \xrightarrow{(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)} 0,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
H_1^c &= \epsilon^2 \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} X_{1,\epsilon})_{\epsilon} [\Delta^2 u_{\epsilon} \varphi + \Delta u_{\epsilon} \Delta \varphi + 2D(\Delta u_{\epsilon}) D\varphi + \Delta u_{\epsilon} \Delta \varphi + u_{\epsilon} \Delta^2 \varphi + 2D u_{\epsilon} D(\Delta \varphi) \\
&\quad + 2D(\Delta u_{\epsilon}) D\varphi + 2D u_{\epsilon} D(\Delta \varphi) + 4 \sum_i D \left( \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial x_i} \right) D \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} \right)] dx.
\end{aligned}$$

Using that  $u_{\epsilon}$  satisfies (VIII) $_{\epsilon}$  we get that

$$(2.26) \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} I_1^c = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} H_1^c = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} \epsilon^2 (\operatorname{div} X_{1,\epsilon})_{\epsilon} \left[ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} w_{2,\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} \right] \varphi dx = -M(\operatorname{div} X_1 w_2) \int_{\Omega} u \varphi dx.$$

From (2.24), (2.25) and (2.26) it follows that

$$w_{0,\epsilon} \Delta u_{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} w_{1,\epsilon} \operatorname{div} u_{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} w_{2,\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} M(w_2 (X_2 - \operatorname{div} X_1 + \Delta X_0)) u_0$$

and  $u$  satisfies (VIII).

### 2.3. Energetic interpretation and compactness results for higher order functionals.

We are going to see that the stability results we got in the preceding paragraph are relevant of general compactness theorems for the family of functionals

$$F_h(u) = \int_{\Omega} f_h(x, u, Du, D^2 u) dx$$

where  $f_h$  is Caratheodory, convex continuous in  $(u, Du, D^2u)$  and satisfies

$$\lambda_0 |z|^p \leq f_h(x, \xi, y, z) \leq \Lambda_0 (1 + |\xi|^p + |y|^p + |z|^p) \quad (p > 1).$$

Theorem 7. Let

$$f_h : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$$

$$(x, \xi, y, z) \mapsto f_h(x, \xi, y, z)$$

be a sequence of convex integrands satisfying

$$(C) \quad \begin{cases} x \mapsto f_h(x, \xi, y, z) \text{ is measurable} \\ (\xi, y, z) \mapsto f_h(x, \xi, y, z) \text{ is convex continuous} \\ \lambda_0 (|\xi|^p + |y|^p + |z|^p) \leq f_h(x, \xi, y, z) \leq \Lambda_0 (1 + |\xi|^p + |y|^p + |z|^p) \quad (p > 1). \end{cases}$$

With such an integrand  $f_h$  we associate the functional  $F_h$ :

$$\forall \Omega \text{ open bounded set in } \mathbb{R}^n, \forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad F_h(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_h(x, u(x), Du(x), D^2u(x)) dx.$$

There exists a subsequence  $(h(k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  and an integrand  $f$ , still satisfying (C), such that:

$$\forall \Omega \text{ open bounded set in } \mathbb{R}^n, \forall u \in W_0^{2,p}(\Omega) \quad F(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(W - W^{2,p}(\Omega)) \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{h_k}(u, \Omega)$$

where,  $F(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f(x, u, Du, D^2u) dx$  is the functional associated with  $f$ .

The conclusion still holds with  $W_0^{2,p}(\Omega)$  instead of  $W^{2,p}(\Omega)$ .

Proof of Theorem 7. The proof is very similar to the proof of Theorem A ([1]); so, we shall develop essentially the parts where the introduction of higher order terms bring some modifications.

Step 1.

Let  $B_n$  be a denumerable rich family of open regular sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (by regular we mean that the boundary is of zero Lebesgue measure).

By the classical abstract compactness theorem of Kuratowski, and using a diagonalization lemma, we can extract a subsequence  $(h(k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that:

$$(2.27) \quad \forall \Omega \in B_n \quad \forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \Gamma^-(W - W^{2,p}(\Omega)) \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{h_k}(u, \Omega)$$

exists. From now on we shall write  $F_k$  instead of  $F_{h_k}$ : (2.27) means that



$$\forall \Omega \in B_n \quad \forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad F'(u, \Omega) = F''(\gamma, \Omega)$$

where

$$\begin{cases} F'(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(w - w^{2,p}) \liminf F_k(u, \Omega) \\ F''(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(w - w^{2,p}) \limsup F_k(u, \Omega) \end{cases}$$

Since  $F'$  and  $F''$  are increasing functions of  $\Omega$  and  $B_n$  is rich, we get:

$$\forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \forall \Omega \text{ open bounded set in } \mathbb{R}^n \quad H(u, \Omega) = \sup_{w \subset \Omega} F'(u, w) = \sup_{w \subset \Omega} F''(u, w)$$

Step 2.

$\Omega \mapsto H(u, \Omega)$  is the restriction to open bounded sets of a regular Borel measure. Since  $H(u, \cdot)$  is an increasing, inner regular function of  $\Omega$  we have just to prove that it is additive and subadditive.

Clearly  $\Omega \mapsto F'(u, \Omega)$  is superadditive; the conclusion will follow from:

$\Omega \mapsto F''(u, \Omega)$  is subadditive on  $B_n$ :

$$\forall \Omega_1, \Omega_2 \in B_n \quad \forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad F''(u, \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2) \leq F''(u, \Omega_1) + F''(u, \Omega_2).$$

Noticing that

$$\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2 = \Omega_1 \cup (\Omega_2 \setminus \overline{\Omega_1}) \supset \Omega_1 \cup (\Omega_2 \setminus \overline{\Omega_1})$$

and  $\text{meas}(\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2) \setminus (\Omega_1 \cup (\Omega_2 \setminus \overline{\Omega_1}))$  is equal to zero, we reduce proving that:  $\forall w_1, w_2, \Omega$  open bounded sets such that

$$\Omega \supset w_1 \cup w_2, \quad \text{meas}(\Omega \setminus (w_1 \cup w_2)) = 0.$$

we have:

$$\forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad F''(u, \Omega) \leq F''(u, w_1) + F''(u, w_2).$$

Let us introduce

$$\Delta = \Omega \setminus (w_1 \cup w_2)$$

(by hypothesis  $\text{meas}(\Delta) = 0$ ) and

$$I_r(\Delta) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n / \text{dist}(x, \Delta) \leq r\}.$$

By Urisohn's lemma, there exist  $\varphi$  regular (here we need  $\varphi \in C^2$ ) such that:

$$\varphi = 1 \text{ on } I_r(\Delta) \text{ and } \varphi = 0 \text{ outside of } I_{2r}(\Delta).$$

(From  $\varphi$  Lipschitz, one can get  $\varphi \in C^2$  by regularization by convolution, noticing that the thickness of  $I_{2r} \setminus I_r$  is strictly positive.)

By definition there exist  $u_k^1 \xrightarrow{W^{2,p}(\Omega)} u$  such that

$$(2.28) \quad F^u(u, \omega_1) = \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} F_k(u_k^1, \omega_1) \quad (i = 1, 2),$$

let us define

$$v_k = \begin{cases} (1-\varphi)u_k^1 + \varphi u & \text{on } \omega_1 \\ u & \text{on } I_{2r}(\Delta) \\ (1-\varphi)u_k^2 + \varphi u & \text{on } \omega_2. \end{cases}$$

Clearly,  $v_k \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$ ; let us prove that

$$\sup_k F_k(v_k, \Omega) < +\infty;$$

from the uniform coerciveness of the  $F_k$  and the definition of  $F^u$  that will imply

$$u_k^1 \xrightarrow{W^{2,p}(\Omega)} u \quad \text{and}$$

$$F^u(u, \Omega) \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} F_k(v_k, \Omega).$$

In fact let us prove this inequality in  $\Omega$ ,  $\Omega = \Omega \cup \Omega \cup \Omega$

$$\begin{aligned} F_k(v_k, \Omega) &= \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} f_k \left( x, t(1-\varphi)u_k^1 + \varphi u, t(1-\varphi)u_k^1 + \varphi u \right) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx \end{aligned}$$

By convexity of  $f_k$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} F_k(v_k, \Omega) &\leq \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u_k^1, u_k^1, u_k^2 u_k^1) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx \\ &\quad + (1-\varphi) \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} f_k \left( x, u, \frac{1}{1-\varphi} \varphi u, \frac{1}{1-\varphi} \varphi u \right) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_k(x, u, u, u^2 u) dx \end{aligned}$$

Going to the limit sup, as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ , and using (2.28) and (v) we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} F_k(v_k, \Omega) &\leq F^u(u, \omega_1) + F^u(u, \omega_2) + \lambda_0 \int_{\Omega} (1 + |u|^p + |u|^p + |u^2 u|^p) dx \\ &\quad + \lambda_0 (1-\varphi) \int_{\Omega} \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\Omega} 1 + \left| \frac{1}{1-\varphi} \varphi u \right|^p \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{1}{1-\varphi} \right)^p \left| \varphi u^2 (u - u_k^1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (u - u_k^1) \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (u - u_k^1) \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right|^p dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $u_k^1$  converge weakly to  $u$  in  $W^{2,p}(w_1)$ , it converges strongly in  $W^{1,p}(w_1)$  which implies:

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_k(tv_k, \Omega) \leq F''(u, w_1) + F''(u, w_2) + \lambda_0 \int_{I_{2r}(\Delta)} (1 + |u|^p + |Du|^p + |D^2u|^p) dx \\ + (1 - \epsilon) \lambda_0 \int_{\Omega} dx .$$

Therefore,

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_k(tv_k, \Omega) < +\infty, \quad tv_k \xrightarrow{W^{2,p}(\Omega)} tu$$

and

$$F''(tu, \Omega) \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_k(tv_k, \Omega) \leq F''(u, w_1) + F''(u, w_2) \\ + \lambda_0 \int_{I_{2r}(\Delta)} (1 + |u|^p + |Du|^p + |D^2u|^p) dx + (1 - \epsilon) \lambda_0 \int_{\Omega} dx .$$

Making  $r$  go to zero,  $\epsilon$  go to one, and using the lower semicontinuity of  $u \mapsto F''(u, \Omega)$  we finally get:

$$F''(u, \Omega) \leq F''(u, w_1) + F''(u, w_2) .$$

Step 3.

$$H(u, \Omega) = F''(w - W^{2,p}(\Omega)) \lim_{h_k} F_{h_k}(u, \Omega) = F(u, \Omega) .$$

We have just to prove that

$$F''(u, \Omega) \leq H(u, \Omega) \leq F'(u, \Omega) .$$

The right inequality is evident; the left one is a straight-forward consequence of the step 2.

Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , let  $w_\epsilon \subset w$ ,  $w_\epsilon$  regular such that  $\text{meas}(\Omega \setminus w_\epsilon) < \epsilon$  by the preceding argument

$$F''(u, \Omega) \leq F''(u, w_\epsilon) + F''(u, \Omega \setminus w_\epsilon) \\ \leq H(u, \Omega) + \lambda_0 \int_{\Omega \setminus w_\epsilon} (1 + |u|^p + |Du|^p + |D^2u|^p) dx .$$

Making  $\epsilon$  go to zero, we get  $F''(u, \Omega) \leq H(u, \Omega)$ .

Step 4.

Let us prove that there exists  $f \in (C)$  such that

$$\forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \forall \Omega \text{ bounded open set in } \mathbb{R}^n, \quad F(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f(x, u(x), Du(x), D^2u(x)) dx.$$

From (C),  $\forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \forall \Omega \text{ bounded open set in } \mathbb{R}^n$

$$0 \leq F(u, \Omega) \leq \Lambda_0 \int_{\Omega} (1 + |u|^p + |Du|^p + |D^2u|^p) dx.$$

It follows that the measure  $\Omega \rightarrow F(u, \Omega)$  is absolutely continuous with respect to the measure of density  $(1 + |u|^p + |Du|^p + |D^2u|^p) dx$ . By Radon-Nikodym theorem, for any  $u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  there exists a locally integrable function  $f_u$  such that:

$$\forall \Omega \text{ open bounded set in } \mathbb{R}^n, \quad F(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_u(x) dx.$$

Given  $x_0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let us consider the function

$$x_{x_0, \xi, y, z} : x \mapsto \xi + \sum_i (x_i - x_{0i}) y_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} z_{ij} (x_i - x_{0i}) (x_j - x_{0j}).$$

There exists a function  $f_{x_0, \xi, y, z}$  such that

$$\forall \Omega \text{ open bounded set in } \mathbb{R}^n, \quad F(x_{x_0, \xi, y, z}, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_{x_0, \xi, y, z}(x) dx.$$

Let us prove that

$$\forall u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad \forall \Omega \text{ open bounded set}, \quad F(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_{x, u(x), Du(x), D^2u(x)}(x) dx$$

that is to say

$$f_u(x) = f_{x, u(x), Du(x), D^2u(x)}(x) = f(x, u(x), Du(x), D^2u(x)).$$

Clearly, by a continuity argument, we can reduce taking  $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

Let us take  $x_0$  a Lebesgue point of  $f_u$  and let us design by  $B(x_0, \rho)$  the open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of center  $x_0$  and radius  $\rho > 0$ . From (C)

$$\forall v \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \forall \rho > 0, \quad 0 \leq F(v, B(x_0, \rho)) \leq \Lambda_0 (1 + \|v\|_{W_{loc}^{2,p}(B(x_0, \rho))}^p).$$

Since  $v \mapsto F(v, \Omega)$  is convex it follows classically that there exist a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\forall u, v \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \forall \rho > 0 \quad |F(u, B(x_0, \rho)) - F(v, B(x_0, \rho))|$$

$$\leq C \|u - v\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, \rho))} (1 + \|u\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, \rho))}^p + \|v\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, \rho))}^p).$$

$$\forall u, v \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \forall 0 < \rho < 1 \quad |F(u, B(x_0, \rho)) - F(v, B(x_0, \rho))|$$

$$\leq C \|u - v\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, \rho))} (1 + \|u\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, 1))}^p + \|v\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, 1))}^p).$$

Let us apply this inequality with  $u$  and  $v = x$

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \rho > 0 < \rho < 1 \quad \left| \int_{B(x_0, \rho)} f_u(x) - f_{x_0, u(x_0), Du(x_0), D^2u(x_0)}(x) dx \right| &\leq C \left| \int_{B(x_0, \rho)} |u(x) - x(x)|^p \right. \\ &\quad \left. + |Du(x) - Dx(x)|^p + |D^2u(x) - D^2x(x)|^p dx \right|^{1/p} \cdot (1 + \|u\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, 1))}^p + \|Dx\|_{W^{2,p}(B(x_0, 1))}^p). \end{aligned}$$

We divide this inequality by  $|B(x_0, \rho)|$  and make  $\rho$  go to zero. Since  $u$  is in

$C^2(\Omega)$  and  $x(x_0) = u(x_0)$ ,  $Dx(x_0) = Du(x_0)$ ,  $D^2x(x_0) = D^2u(x_0)$  we get

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{|B(x_0, \rho)|} \left| \int_{B(x_0, \rho)} (f_u(x) - f_{x_0, u(x_0), Du(x_0), D^2u(x_0)}(x)) dx \right| = 0.$$

Since  $x_0$  is a Lebesgue point of  $f_u$ , we finally obtain

$$f_u(x_0) = f_{x_0, u(x_0), Du(x_0), D^2u(x_0)}(x_0).$$

Step 5.

$$F(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(W - W_0^{2,p}(\Omega)) \lim_{n_k} F_{n_k}(u, \Omega).$$

We adapt the classical proof which consists multiplying  $u$  by a function  $\psi$  regular, equal to zero near the boundary, using the same type of argument as in Step 2.

Remark 8. It is clear that this demonstration can be straightforward extended to functionals of any order. We restricted ourselves to functionals of order two only to simplify the notations.

Let us now give the proof of the homogenization formula for the functionals

$$F_c(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{c}, D^2u\right) dx$$

where  $f$  is periodic in  $x$ , convex, continuous, coercive with respect to  $D^2u$ . Since the argument is close to the one developed in [3] we shall just sketch the proof and develop the modifications that the introduction of higher order terms brings:

Theorem 8. Let

$$F_\varepsilon(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, D^2u(x)\right) dx$$

where  $f$  is  $Y$ -periodic in  $x$ , convex continuous in  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$  and satisfies:

$$\lambda_0 |z|^p \leq f(x, z) \leq \lambda_0 (1 + |z|^p) \quad (p > 1).$$

When  $\varepsilon$  goes to zero  $F_\varepsilon$  converges in  $\Gamma^-(W - W_0^{2,p}(\Omega))$  sense to  $F_0$ :

$$F_0(u) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(D^2u(x)) dx$$

with

$$f_0(z) = \min_{\substack{u \in W^{2,p} \\ u \text{ } Y\text{-periodic}}} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, D^2u(x) + z) dx.$$

Proof of Theorem 8. Step 1.

From the compactness Theorem 7, we can extract a subsequence  $(\varepsilon_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  and find an integrand  $f_0$  such that for every  $\Omega$  open bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $u$  in  $W_{loc}^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,

$$\Gamma^-(W - W^{2,p}(\Omega)) \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{\varepsilon_k}(u, \Omega) = F_0(u, \Omega)$$

with

$$F_0(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x, D^2u(x)) dx$$

(it is clear that  $f_0$  does not depend on  $u$  and  $Du$ , since  $0 \leq f_0(x, \xi, y, z) \leq \lambda_0 (1 + |z|^p)$  and  $(\xi, y) \mapsto f_0(x, \xi, y, z)$  is convex).

The convergence result will follow from the identification of  $f_0$ .

Step 2.

$f_0$  is independent of  $x$ .

The idea is the same as the one developed in Proposition 1; let us see how to extend it simply to the most general case where

$$F_{\varepsilon}(u) = \int_{\Omega} f\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, u, Du, \dots, D^v u\right) dx$$

(for simplicity of notations let us take  $v = 2$ ).

From the proof of Theorem 7

$$F_0(x_{x_1}, \xi, y, z) = \int_{\Omega} f(x_1, x, \xi, y, z) dx$$

where

$$x_{x_1, \xi, y, z}(x) = \xi + (y, x - x_1) + \frac{1}{2}(z, x - x_1, x - x_1)$$

and

$$F_0(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x, u, Du, D^2 u) dx \text{ with } f_0(x, \xi, y, z) = f(x, x, \xi, y, z).$$

Let  $x_0, x_1, x_2$  be fixed in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $n_k^i$  such that  $n_k^i \varepsilon_k \leq x_0 \leq (n_k^i + 1) \varepsilon_k$ . Let

$$u_{\varepsilon_k} \xrightarrow{w - W^{2,p}(\Omega)} x_{x_1, \xi, y, z} \text{ and}$$

$$F_0(x_{x_1, \xi, y, z}, \Omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{\varepsilon_k}(u_{\varepsilon_k}, \Omega) \text{ with } \Omega = Y_{\varepsilon} + x_2.$$

$$F_{\varepsilon_k}(u_{\varepsilon_k}, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega + n_k^i \varepsilon_k} f\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon_k}, u_{\varepsilon_k}(x - n_k^i \varepsilon_k), Du_{\varepsilon_k}(x - n_k^i \varepsilon_k), D^2 u_{\varepsilon_k}(x - n_k^i \varepsilon_k)\right) dx.$$

Let us extend  $u_{\varepsilon_k}(\cdot - n_k^i \varepsilon_k)$  to  $\Omega + x_0$  and  $v_k$  be the extension such that

$$|F_{\varepsilon_k}(u_{\varepsilon_k}, \Omega) - F_{\varepsilon_k}(v_k, \Omega + x_0)| \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

Since  $v_k$  converges to  $x_{x_1, \xi, y, z}(\cdot - x_0)$  in  $w - W^{2,p}(\Omega + x_0)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F_0(x_{x_1, \xi, y, z}(\cdot - x_0), Y_{\varepsilon} + x_0 + x_2) &\leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{\varepsilon_k}(v_k, Y_{\varepsilon} + x_2 + x_0) \\ &\leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{\varepsilon_k}(u_{\varepsilon_k}, Y_{\varepsilon} + x_2) \\ &\leq F_0(x_{x_1, \xi, y, z}, Y_{\varepsilon} + x_2). \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\frac{1}{|Y_{\varepsilon}|} \int_{Y_{\varepsilon} + x_0 + x_2} f_{x_0 + x_1}(x, \xi, y, z) dx \leq \frac{1}{|Y_{\varepsilon}|} \int_{Y_{\varepsilon} + x_2} f_{x_1}(x, \xi, y, z) dx.$$

Making  $\varepsilon$  go to zero, we get

$$f_{x_0+x_1}(x_0+x_2, \xi, y, z) = f_{x_1}(x_2, \xi, y, z)$$

which implies

$$f(x_0+x_1, x_0+x_2, \xi, y, z) = f(x_1, x_2, \xi, y, z)$$

i.e.  $x \mapsto f(x, x, \xi, y, z) = f_0(x, \xi, y, z)$  is constant.

Step 3.

$$f_0(z) = \lim_{c \rightarrow 0} \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f\left(\frac{x}{c}, D^2u + z\right) dx.$$

( $W_Y$  is the space of  $Y$ -periodic functions.)

Clearly since  $f_0$  is convex

$$\begin{aligned} f_0(z) &= \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f_0(x, D^2u + z) dx \\ &= \min_{u \in K_z} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f_0(x, D^2u) dx = \frac{1}{|Y|} \min_{u \in K_z} F_0(u, Y) \end{aligned}$$

where  $K_z$  is the closed convex set

$$K_z = \{u + \frac{1}{2} \int z_{ij} x_i x_j / u \in W_Y\} = \{v/v - \frac{1}{2} \int z_{ij} x_i x_j \in W_Y\}.$$

Since

$$F_0(u, \Omega) = \Gamma^-(w - w_0^{2,p}(\Omega)) F_{c_K}(u, \Omega)$$

it follows that

$$(F_0 + \delta_{K_z})(u, Y) = \Gamma^-(w - w^{2,p}(Y)) (F_{c_K} + \delta_{K_z})(u, Y)$$

and since the functionals are uniformly coercive on  $W^{3,p}(Y)$

$$f_0(z) = \lim_{c_K \rightarrow 0} \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f\left(\frac{x}{c_K}, D^2u + z\right) dx.$$

Step 4.

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow 0} \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f\left(\frac{x}{c}, D^2u + z\right) dx = \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, D^2u + z) dx.$$

This follows from the equality:

$$\forall h \in \mathbb{N} \quad \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(hx, D^2u + z) dx = \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, D^2u + z) dx.$$



Let us call

$$M_h = \min_{u \in W_Y} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(hx, D^2 u(x) + z) dx$$

and let  $u_h$  be a minimizing point; let us prove first that:

a)  $M_1 \geq M_h$ .

Let us define

$$\tilde{u}(x) = \frac{1}{h^2} u_1(hx)$$

and let us extend it to  $Y$  by periodicity.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(hx, D^2 \tilde{u} + z) dx &= \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(hx, D^2 u_1(hx) + z) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{h^n} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_{hY} f(x, D^2 u_1(x) + z) dx \end{aligned}$$

and since  $u_1$  is  $Y$ -periodic

$$= \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, D^2 u_1(x) + z) dx = M_1.$$

Since  $\tilde{u}$  is  $Y$ -periodic  $M_h \leq M_1$ :

b)  $M_h \geq M_1$ .

Let  $u_h$  be a solution of  $M_h$  and

$$v_h(x) = \frac{1}{h^n} \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_n)=0}^{h-1} u_h\left(x_1 + \frac{i_1}{h}, \dots, x_n + \frac{i_n}{h}\right).$$

Clearly  $v_h$  is  $\frac{1}{h}$   $Y$ -periodic, so  $\tilde{u}(x) = h^2 v_h(\frac{x}{h})$  is  $Y$ -periodic.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, D^2 \tilde{u}(x) + z) dx &= \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(x, D^2 v_h(\frac{x}{h}) + z) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{|Y|} h^n \int_{\frac{1}{h}Y} f(hx, D^2 v_h(x) + z) dx \end{aligned}$$

and since  $v_h$  is  $\frac{1}{h}$   $Y$ -periodic

$$= \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(hx, D^2 v_h(x) + z) dx,$$

by convexity

$$\leq \frac{1}{h^n} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n=0}^{h-1} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f\left[hx, D^2 u_h\left(x_1 + \frac{i_1}{h}, x_2 + \frac{i_2}{h}, \dots, x_n + \frac{i_n}{h}\right) + z\right] dx$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{h^n} \sum_{i_1=\dots=i_n=0}^{h-1} \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_{Y+\frac{i}{h}} f(hx - i, D^2 u_h(x) + z) dx$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_Y f(hx, D^2 u_h(x) + z) dx = M_h.$$

Therefore  $M_1 \leq M_h$  and the conclusion follows.

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20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) We show that many, a priori distinct, problems of homogenization including the case of rapidly oscillating potentials (cf. Bensoussan, J. L. Lions and Papanicolau [2]), can be studied, and the limit problem computed, in a unified way, through general compactness and convergence results for sequences of functionals of calculus of variations. The convergence notion is taken in variational sense, more precisely we use the notion of Gamma-convergence introduced by De-Giorgi [4].		